

# RECREATION

— October 1937 —

New Audiences

Sports "Carry-Over"  
in the  
Home Recreation Program

By W. A. Keenan

Some Sports and Their Development

By Agatha Varela

Recreation Rehabilitation the Shut-in

By Eduard C. Lindeman

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# RECREATION

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## Recreation and the Building of Self-Confidence

**M**ANY HAVE come to doubt themselves, their neighbors, the power of combined neighbors to work out the world's problems.

There is need to help each child, each man to find the activity he carries on supremely well. Most individuals excel in at least one activity. Perhaps the man is an unusual fisherman. Perhaps there is one flower he grows earlier or better than anyone else. Perhaps he has a gift with pets. Maybe there is a musical instrument that he can play supremely well. The helping of individuals to find what they do supremely well helps to build faith in themselves and sometimes faith in the world in general.

The world is so big and knowledge has grown apace. No one person can know very much of all there is to know. Many become discouraged. To help a man in his free time to master some one thing is to help him to have a little better understanding of all that vast realm of experience that he will never have hours enough to find out about for himself in one lifetime. To master some one thing helps him to realize that the rest of the world within limits is also masterable.

Ability to do one thing well, with or without recognition of this ability by one's neighbors of the moment, gives a person an inner sense of power, of status, that is most important to his continued growth.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

## October



*Courtesy Minneapolis Municipalities*

There is something in the autumn that is native to my blood  
Touch of manner, hint of mood —  
And my heart is like a rhyme,  
With the yellow and the crimson and the purple keeping time.

*Bliss Carmen.*



# Much Ado About Doing

By GLEN O. GRANT  
National Recreation Association

**T**HE STUDY outlined in this article is concerned with recreational interests and

needs of young people in Los Angeles, California, and the destructive and constructive results achieved in meeting the interests and needs. The sources of the data are a Recreation Interests Questionnaire entitled "What do you do and what would you like to do when you are not in school," a study of delinquencies of youth entitled "Youth's New Day," issued by the Los Angeles County Coordination Council, original studies supervised by the author to discover types of juvenile offenses, and original studies of the community resources and of the program of the Department of Playground and Recreation, as well as material from various juvenile and recreational agencies. The data and conclusions are not entirely comprehensive or scientific, yet the material is sufficiently such to be indicative, however, and valuable accordingly as a guide in our future efforts.

## Part One

### I. *What Do They Do and What Do They Want?*

Some 17,000 young people of the Junior and High School age were given a questionnaire to fill out on their interests and wants. Of the 17,056 students replying (the number approached) about half were boys. Six Junior High Schools, nine High Schools and one Junior College were studied. The findings are tabulated or indicated below:

#### A. WHAT DO THEY DO?

##### Shifting Interests

The peak of interest in playground activity comes for boys in the ninth grade and for girls in the eighth grade, the boys showing a more marked increase during the seventh and eighth grades than the girls. The beginning of the slump in playground interests coincides with the physical change from childhood to adolescence, accounting for the earlier peak of girls'

This study was made by Mr. Grant when he was a member of the staff of the Los Angeles Department of Playground and Recreation, serving as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Surveys of the Los Angeles Research Committee. The sources of the data are a Recreation Interests Questionnaire entitled "What do you do and what would you like to do when you are not in school"; a study of delinquencies of youth under the title "Youth's New Day," issued by the Los Angeles County Coordination Council; original studies supervised by the author to discover types of juvenile offenses, and original studies of the community resources and of the program of the Department of Playground and Recreation, as well as material from various juvenile and recreational agencies in the community.

playground interest and the abrupt change of playground habits during the shift from

Junior to Senior High School. Following the peak there is rapid decrease in attendance for the next two years. Thereafter an upturn is noted due largely to interest in recreational activities boys and girls may enjoy together. All types of social recreation hold increased interest from this point on. The slump indicates changing interests; old playground activities are thought childish and new interests are not yet formed. The slump goes deeper for boys due, perhaps, to occupations taken up, and trips, "adventuring" and other activities not open to girls.

## Interest in Various Types of Activity

**Sports with social interest and values** command more interest. Tennis and swimming show a steadily rising curve of interest, mounting with age. This type of interest increased over three times between grades 7 and 12, and is so steady that, knowing the age distribution of children and youth in any one district, economic factors being constant, it would be possible to plan the quantity of facilities needed to satisfy this interest.

**Traditional activities** show decrease with age. Boys' activities such as baseball and football show a gradual and marked decrease, more marked than in other activities, so that the general rise in interest toward the end of High School seems due to the influence of social recreation activities. The

curve for "playground sports" starts down for boys in the eighth grade and girls in the seventh grade. This may be due to the fact that boys and girls do not desire these activities any longer or their wants in that regard have been met. Our conclusion is that the latter is true and little programming is needed in this field to meet their needs. In the eighth grade football, basketball, playground ball and handball all show a

peak of participation (for boys) and interest lags thereafter in the order named, football holding the interest longer and handball the shortest time.

Interests of twelfth grade boys and girls were studied because this is the age at which school influence decreases with graduation and the responsibility of the public recreation department accordingly increases.

1. *In athletic team sports.* The following table is based on the number interested per 1000 in the twelfth grade as are the tables which follow, unless otherwise indicated:

| Activity              | Girls | Boys |
|-----------------------|-------|------|
| Basketball .....      | 473   | 469  |
| Volley Ball .....     | 432   | 209  |
| Hockey .....          | 244   | 46   |
| Playground Ball ..... | 178   | 264  |
| Soccer .....          | 105   | 171  |
| Handball .....        | 74    | 336  |
| Baseball .....        | 41    | 483  |

2. *In sports more or less socialized in nature:*

| Activity            | Girls | Boys |
|---------------------|-------|------|
| Tennis .....        | 815   | 461  |
| Swimming .....      | 665   | 654  |
| Archery .....       | 210   | 205  |
| Croquet .....       | 126   | 71   |
| Paddle Tennis ..... | 122   | 81   |

We observe again that girls mature more rapidly in general in interest in socialized activities than boys, although swimming and archery strike a uniform response.

3. *In purely social activities.* Social dancing is now enjoyed by 485 girls out of every 1000 in the twelfth grade, or nearly one half, while only 344 boys, slightly over a third, enjoy it. The more rapid social advancement of girls is noted here again.

4. *In cultural activities.* Interest in these activities lags behind, but with increased interest over that shown in lower grades. Boys surpass the girls only in interest in handcraft.

| Activity                 | Girls | Boys |
|--------------------------|-------|------|
| Dramatics .....          | 244   | 103  |
| Instrumental Music ..... | 212   | 178  |
| Vocal Music .....        | 148   | 97   |
| Handcraft .....          | 119   | 133  |
| Art .....                | 114   | 60   |
| Puppetry .....           | 70    | 18   |
| Story-Telling .....      | 51    | 32   |

5. *Summary of twelfth grade interests.* The most popular activities for boys and girls are given in their order of preference: 1. Girls—Team games of basketball, volley ball and hockey; socialized sports of tennis, swimming and archery, and the cultural activities of dramatics, instrumental music and vocal music. 2. Boys—Team games of basketball, baseball and handball; socialized sports of swimming, tennis and archery, and cultural activities of instrumental music, handcrafts and dramatics.

The most readily and adapted activities for co-recreational participation among those listed are

tennis, swimming, dramatics, instrumental music and only those team games not involving intensive effort and personal contact.

*Most Rapidly Increasing Participation Interests of Boys and Girls from Grades 7-12*

Girls' participation interest increase for various activities per 1000 was tennis, 658-815; hockey, 152-244; archery, 124-210. Other activities did not show increased interest in this age range, indicating that social and cultural interests had been previously stimulated and physical activities were coming to the fore.

Boys' participation interest increase per 1000 students was tennis 429-461 and dancing 154-344. All other activities show a decrease of interest per 1000. The "socialized emphasis" of both of these activities would indicate that this phase of boy development had been delayed longer than for girls.

B. WHAT DO THEY WANT?

(Comparison of Activities Already Enjoyed with Activities Desired but Not Available)

1. *The replies of 8,195 boys in grades 7-12*

| Activity            | "Participation Rank" | Want Rank | Variance bet. Participation Rank and Want Rank |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|--|
| Baseball .....      | 1st                  | 10th      | -9   |
| Basketball .....    | 2nd                  | 14th      | -12  |
| Football .....      | 3rd                  | 9th       | -6   |
| Handball .....      | 4th                  | 15th      | -11  |
| Swimming .....      | 5th                  | 1st       | *4   |
| Track .....         | 6th                  | 13th      | -7   |
| Playground Ball ..  | 7th                  | 21st      | -14  |
| Tennis .....        | 8th                  | 4th       | *4   |
| Volleyball .....    | 9th                  | 23rd      | -14  |
| Boxing .....        | 10th                 | 3rd       | *7   |
| Wrestling .....     | 11th                 | 5th       | *6   |
| Soccer .....        | 12th                 | 12th      | *0   |
| Paddle Tennis ..... | 13th                 | 17th      | -4   |
| Dancing .....       | 14th                 | 7th       | *7   |
| Instrumental Music. | 15th                 | 16th      | -1   |
| Handicraft .....    | 16th                 | 11th      | *5   |
| Tumbling .....      | 17th                 | 8th       | *9   |
| Croquet .....       | 18th                 | 19th      | -1   |
| Vocal Music .....   | 19th                 | 22nd      | -3   |
| Art .....           | 20th                 | 20th      | *0   |
| Dramatics .....     | 21st                 | 18th      | *3   |
| Hockey .....        | 22nd                 | 6th       | *16  |
| Archery .....       | 23rd                 | 2nd       | *21  |
| Storytelling .....  | 24th                 | 25th      | -1   |
| Puppetry .....      | 25th                 | 24th      | *1   |

\* Plus

2. *The replies of 8,709 girls in grades 7-12*

| Activity            | "Participation Rank" | Want Rank | Variance bet. Participation Rank and Want Rank |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|--|
| Basketball .....    | 1st                  | 9th       | -8   |
| Volleyball .....    | 2nd                  | 14th      | -12  |
| Tennis .....        | 3rd                  | 2nd       | *1   |
| Dancing .....       | 4th                  | 3rd       | *1   |
| Playground Ball ..  | 5th                  | 19th      | -14  |
| Swimming .....      | 6th                  | 1st       | *5   |
| Soccer .....        | 7th                  | 15th      | -8   |
| Handball .....      | 8th                  | 17th      | -9   |
| Instrumental Music. | 9th                  | 7th       | *2   |

| Activity            | "Participation Rank" | Want Rank | Variance bet. Participation Rank and Want Rank |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|--|
| Paddle Tennis ..... | 10th                 | 8th       | * 2  |
| Dramatics .....     | 11th                 | 4th       | * 7  |
| Croquet .....       | 12th                 | 12th      | * 0  |
| Hockey .....        | 13th                 | 6th       | * 7  |
| Vocal Music .....   | 14th                 | 11th      | * 3  |
| Art .....           | 15th                 | 13th      | * 2  |
| Baseball .....      | 16th                 | 20th      | - 4  |
| Handicraft .....    | 17th                 | 10th      | * 7  |
| Storytelling .....  | 18th                 | 18th      | * 0  |
| Archery .....       | 19th                 | 5th       | *14  |
| Puppetry .....      | 20th                 | 16th      | * 4  |

\* Plus

3. *Conclusions from Comparison of "Participation Interests" and "Playground Wants" of Boys—Seventh—Twelfth Grades.* Assuming in general that where participation decreases, adequate provision is made for that "interest," and that where a "want" is expressed, facilities and program are not at hand to satisfy that "want," the following guide to the enlargement of facilities and program is suggested:

- a. *Boys' activities needing no further promotion:* Volleyball, playground ball, basketball, handball, baseball, track and football. (Those dropping farthest in preference rank are listed first.)
- b. *Boys' activities needing further promotion:* Puppetry, dramatics, tennis, swimming, handicraft, wrestling, boxing, dancing, tumbling, hockey and archery. (Those rising most in the preference list are given last.)
- c. *Activities in which there is no change in preference:* Art and soccer. Those changing less than five places in rank were paddle tennis, vocal music, instrumental music, croquet and storytelling.

4. *Conclusion from Comparison of "Participation Interests" and Playground Wants of Girls—Seventh—Twelfth Grade.*

- a. *Girls' activities needing no further promotion:* Playground ball, volley ball, handball, basketball, soccer and baseball—(All are "playground sports.") (Those dropping farthest in preference rank are listed first.)
- b. *Girls' activities needing further promotion:* Tennis, dancing, instrumental music, paddle tennis, art, vocal music, puppetry, swimming,

handcraft, hockey, dramatics and archery. (Those rising most in preference rank are given last.)

- c. *Activities in which there is no change in preference ranks.* Story-telling and croquet.

## II. To What Do They Belong and to What Do They Want to Belong?

The recreation interest questionnaire also asked to what organization the students belonged and to what organizations they would like to belong. A study of the replies follows:

### A. TO WHAT DO THEY BELONG?

**To what do they belong?—Boys.** Out of the 8,245 boys answering the questionnaire 3,034 or



Archery and swimming, according to the study, strike a uniform response in boys and girls

36% were members of "National Character Building" organizations and 1954 held membership in school, church or private clubs. While there is some duplication, it is fairly safe to assume that approximately half of the total group belongs to some club organization.

The distribution of boy's club affiliation is shown below, the figures representing boys per 1000 in the seventh—twelfth grades:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Boy Scouts (including Sea Scouts and Cubs)...  | 221 |
| Y.M.C.A. (including all clubs in age range)... | 121 |
| Woodcraft Rangers .....                        | 23  |
| Clubs unique in schools .....                  | 80  |
| Clubs unique in churches .....                 | 83  |
| Private Clubs .....                            | 72  |

**The Ages of Most Active Club Membership—Boys.** Boys of Junior High School age are the





Courtesy The Luther Gulick Camps

A popular activity with girls, but one which is in need of further promotion

best "joiners," with the eighth grade in the lead in national boys' organizations. It is interesting to note that the peak of interest in the school, church and private clubs comes in the eleventh grade. Comparison of the figures below leads us to observe that the program of the "National Character Building" organizations appeals particularly to the Junior High School age and the other clubs with special activity interests and social activities appeal increasingly to the High School boy.

| Grade | NUMBER OF BOYS PER 1000              |                                 |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|       | "National Character Building" Groups | School, Church or Private Clubs |
| 7     | 393                                  | 201                             |
| 8     | 434                                  | 216                             |
| 9     | 353                                  | 213                             |
| 10    | 213                                  | 115                             |
| 11    | 299                                  | 353                             |
| 12    | 285                                  | 341                             |

**To What Do They Belong?—Girls.** Out of 8,807 girls studied, 1,338 or 15% were members of "National Character Building" organizations. In contrast with 36% of the boys' group being so served, it is obvious that girls' needs have been slighted in this field. However, 412 girls in every 1000 or 41% belong to school, church or private clubs.

The distribution of club affiliation of girls is tabulated below,

showing the number of girls per 1000 in grades seven to twelve belonging to different groups.

|                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Girl Scouts (and Brownies).....       | 47  |
| Y.W.C.A. (Girl Reserves).....         | 40  |
| Camp Fire Girls (and Blue Birds)..... | 37  |
| School .....                          | 149 |
| Church .....                          | 143 |
| Private .....                         | 119 |

The splendid service to girlhood, often unrecognized, which is being given by activity interest clubs in schools, playgrounds, churches and other community organizations is very noticeable in the above table.

**The Ages of Most Active Club Members—Girls.**

Here again it is discovered that the Junior High School girl, like her brother, is the best "joiner" of the "National Character Building Club" at the eighth grade level, while the peak of interest in other groups (school, church and private) is in the tenth grade, one year before that of her brother. The earlier development of social interests in girls may be responsible for this fact since these club programs are relatively social in emphasis. The program of the "National Character



Building" organizations for girls as well as boys does not seem to fit the needs of the High School age. It is more obvious with girls than boys.

| NUMBER OF GIRLS PER 1000 |                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Grade                    | "National Character Building" Groups | School, Church or Private Clubs |
| 7                        | 147                                  | 264                             |
| 8                        | 171                                  | 406                             |
| 9                        | 137                                  | 390                             |
| 10                       | 140                                  | 619                             |
| 11                       | 161                                  | 504                             |
| 12                       | 154                                  | 548                             |

#### B. TO WHAT DO THEY WANT TO BELONG?

About half the boys and half the girls belong to clubs of one kind or another. What of the other half? To what kind of clubs do they wish to belong?

**Clubs to Which Boys Wish to Belong.** 45 per cent of the total group expressed a desire to join additional groups. The number per 1000 wishing to join specific clubs follows:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Y.M.C.A. (all organizations) .....      | 195 |
| Boy Scouts (Sea Scouts and Clubs) ..... | 156 |
| Woodcraft Rangers .....                 | 31  |
| Private Clubs .....                     | 57  |
| School Clubs .....                      | 13  |
| Church Clubs .....                      | 3   |

In studying the questionnaire it was found that there were about two-thirds as many requests for Sea Scout membership as for Boy Scout membership, indicating the possibility of enlarged service there. The large numbers interested in Y.M.C.A. clubs speaks for the popularity of this group. The lack of interest in church groups probably indicates this need is adequately met or that this type of organization fails to appeal to boys. (It should be noted, however, that many churches sponsor "National Character Building" organization clubs.)

**Clubs to Which Girls Wish to Belong.** 47 per cent of the total group of girls expressed a desire to join additional clubs. The number per 1000 girls wishing to join specific clubs follows:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Girl Scouts (and Brownies) .....       | 136 |
| Y.W.C.A. (Girl Reserves) .....         | 141 |
| Camp Fire Girls (and Blue Birds) ..... | 94  |
| Private Clubs .....                    | 46  |
| School Clubs .....                     | 30  |
| Church Clubs .....                     | 27  |

The evident need for additional club service through the "National Character Building" agencies is noted.

#### C. WHY DON'T THEY BELONG?

**Reason for non-membership given by boys** were 4,580 in number. They are tabulated below.

|                                 |      |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Not interested .....            | 1423 |
| Can't afford it .....           | 896  |
| Never been asked .....          | 827  |
| Work at home .....              | 560  |
| No group in the community ..... | 367  |

It would be interesting to know the real interests of boys not interested in joining a club. It is regrettable in 367 cases that no group was to be found in the immediate community. The large number who can't afford it or who haven't been asked is significant.

**Reasons for non-membership given by girls** were 5,452 in number. The major reasons are tabulated below.

|                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Not interested .....        | 1576 |
| Never been asked .....      | 990  |
| Work at home .....          | 728  |
| Can't afford it .....       | 708  |
| No group in community ..... | 593  |
| School work .....           | 521  |
| Parents object .....        | 305  |
| No time .....               | 15   |
| Work at store .....         | 11   |

In general there is a close correlation between the answers of boys and girls. The larger number of girls unable to join because of work at home, school work, coupled with "no time," might indicate that girls are more tied by responsibility and duties than their brothers.

#### Part Two

##### *Destructive Results When Leisure Time Needs of Youth Are Not Met and Steps Being Taken to Remedy the Same*

Space does not admit a full analysis of this section, but a few interesting findings are listed below.

The study reveals forty-six boys out of every 1000 boys (5-17 years of age) and seventeen girls (5-17 years of age) out of every 1000 have been designated "delinquent" or "problem" children. In other words three out of every 100 boys and girls have failed to adjust; ninety-seven have succeeded in adjusting to our society.

Eighty-five per cent of delinquents in one institution had had no constructive play life.

Boys and girls 16 years of age show the greatest number of arrests.

34.7% of juvenile offences take place in the street.

The time when most juvenile offences take place are 3-4 o'clock in the afternoon (when school is out) and 6-7 o'clock (after the evening meal). Most crimes are committed on Saturday and Sunday.

(Continued on page 448)

# Shorter Hours for Shut-ins

By WILLIS H. EDMUND  
Director, Department of Recreation  
Akron, Ohio

**Y**OU KNOW there are many different cases of handicapped children. Some can attend our schools for cripples, then there are those who are so handicapped they cannot attend school. But now they are not neglected. They get their school instruction right at home and are graded just as the youngsters that go to school. But then our city doesn't stop at that. Our Recreation Department has seen to it that our home-bound-shut-ins are not forgotten. A program of activities has been arranged so these shut-ins have been given the chance for just what their little hearts have longed for most. It seems nearly too good to be true.

"If you could just stop in and see what it really means. Imagine a real instructor teaching the boys and girls aeroplane modeling; a real instructor teaching them art, music, or anything they want to do most. My boy was ill this week and couldn't have his teacher or recreational instructor, and although he had to be in bed the 'Story Lady' called to read to him and tell stories. Now I really don't think my letter can make you realize what it all means to us mothers. That these children are not forgotten means so much in life."

So writes the mother of one of Akron's physically handicapped children to a newspaper editor, concerning the recreation program now being carried on in the homes of fifty boys and girls who are too crippled to leave their homes, even in a wheel-chair, except on rare occasions.

Thousands of words have been written and spoken about the need of organized recreation for children and adults, and nearly as many dollars are being spent for supervision, facilities and equipment, but too little has been done to shorten the too-long, too-many leisure hours of the handicapped person confined to a life of four walls.



The Akron Department of Recreation, representing the cooperation and the combined budgets of the city and the Board of Education, now has organized recreation activities for these children.

Two brothers, eleven and seven years old, crippled since childhood, yet real boys enough to keep baseball scrapbooks and follow the great American game religiously on their radio, had this to say concerning a visit paid them by Luke Sewell, an Akron resident and catcher for the Chicago White Sox, arranged as a part of the activity program:

"Gee, but it was swell. He came right into our dining room where Johnnie and I have our desks. That was grand, 'specially because Johnnie and I can't walk you know. But yesterday we didn't mind so much that we can't go out and play baseball with the rest of the boys. We didn't feel so left out of things."

The organization for the program has been carefully planned and is under the supervision of Russel Hastler, a man who is interested in these children and can speak their own language, for he still carries mute evidence of a misfortune of his own childhood. The first thirty boys and girls to take part in the activity program were selected from a group recommended by a local social agency, but the others have been included at the request of friends and parents. The program is only started; the ground has barely been scratched. The recreation opportunities offered these youngsters depend upon two important things—what they want to do, and what their doctors or surgeons will allow them to do. The general result is, let them do what they want to if possible, be it music, art, handcraft, or some passive activity.

Members of the regular recreation staff do the supervising and instructing as a part of their

(Continued on page 449)

# Some Sports and Their Development

By AGATHA VARELA  
Washington, D. C.

**W**HATEVER THE DAMAGE, great or little, caused by football today, it is at least confined to the players and the goal posts! Five or six hundred years ago the limits were much broader. In Merrie England, in those good old days of manly sport, the teams, followed by old men, young men, maids and matrons, and a motley assortment of children and dogs, would go plunging after the ball through village streets, up one and down the next, in a mad, hair-raising scramble which caused such havoc and destruction that terrified merchants were forced to close their shops while a game was in progress. The worthy merchants protested the game so long and loudly because of the damage it did their trade and wares, that in 1314 Edward III forbid the playing of it.

## As the Romans Played Football

Yet in all justice to football, its history contains many less violent and more glamorous pages. The Florentines of the Renaissance, in particular, played a brand very different from that of the English. They developed their own variety, an elegant and showy sport in which only noblemen were permitted to indulge, which was preceded and followed by a parade of the players and their attendants, all garbed in costly silks and velvets, and which was rendered pleasanter for them by frequent rest periods during the game, when, with a happy ignorance of training rules, they would refresh themselves by eating sweetmeats and sipping wine, and would bask contentedly in the admiring smiles of the lovely ladies of Florence!

But the game of their football antecedents, the Romans, showed little of this refinement and elegance. A crude, rough sport, it was not indulged in to any great extent by the citizens as a whole, but we have word that one of the greatest of the emperors, Caesar Augustus, was very fond of playing

"One peaceable citizen of London described an early game of football thus: 'For as concerning football playing, I protest it may rather be called a friendly kind of fight than a play or recreation; a bloody and murdering practice than a friendly sport or pastime.'"

With this issue we begin the publication of a series of articles by Miss Varela on the historical background of some of our most popular sports, some of which were known in other countries hundreds of years ago. The interesting development of football and hockey is described this month. Facts about archery, tennis and polo will be presented in later issues of RECREATION.

it. With the Greeks, who are generally considered to have originated it, football was far more popular than with the Romans, and was, according to all accounts, even wilder and more uncouth. The greatest of the Greeks was one Aristonico Caristo whose prowess the Athenians forever immortalized by raising a statue in his honor.

## Football in England

In England, football had rather a gruesome beginning, for tradition holds that the first English football was the skull of a Danish invader which the playful youths of Chester were fond of kicking about. From this simple start the game developed into the public menace against which Edward III issued his famous edict. Other later kings forbid football more because they wanted their subjects to use all their spare time practicing archery in order to fight in the wars, than out of any concern for the public safety. Their edicts were calmly ignored, however, and football continued to be played with gusto. In many villages the custom began of holding big games annually on Shrove Tuesday and these games took a variety of quaint forms. At Scone and Melrose, the bachelors played the married men. At Inverness, the old maids were teamed against the matrons. In one little Suffolk town, all the old hags would turn out to choose sides of twelve each and play from noon until six. Although these Shrove Tuesday games gradually died out in most of the



villages, even today in some remote corners of England the people still delight in taking part once a year in the crude rough variety of football which their ancestors so enjoyed.

Seeing the impossibility of preventing football, the crown at last recognized it, and some members of royalty even came to enjoy it. Mary, Queen of Scots, the greatest royal fan of whom we read, delighted in organizing her retinue into teams which played impromptu games for her amusement. It was her son, James I, who first sanctioned football playing in England, and in consequence there immediately began a variety of football in public schools which gradually developed into the fine game of Rugby that the English so enjoy today.

The original Rugby was solely a kicking game, but when, in 1823, a lad named Ellis inadvertently ran with the ball, such a storm of controversy arose over the problem of "to run or not to run," that at last the two schools of thought on the subject separated and those wanting only kicking formed the London Football Association, and those allowing carrying continued to call their game Rugby. Visitors to Rugby School today may see a small inscription upon a stone wall which reveals the pride of the old school in the deed of her famous son, Ellis.

"This stone  
Commemorates the exploits of  
William Webb Ellis  
Who with a fine disregard for the rules of  
Football as played in his time  
First took the ball in his arms and ran with it  
Thus originating the distinctive feature of  
The Rugby Game.  
A. D. 1823."

#### In the United States

In the United States, the early collegiate games were very similar to the English Association games. Crude and rough like early football in the mother country, it was slowly but surely tamed and civilized by the great colleges that took it up. Yale has the first record of an organized game which occurred in 1840 between the Frosh and the Sophs. In the early games, lack of rules and originality on the part of coaches and teams caused incidents so amusing that football fans have been chuckling over them ever since. The most famous were probably those that concerned the lads who greased their pants so that it was impossible to tackle them; the boys who embroidered footballs on their jerseys that couldn't be distinguished from the real pigskin, and the en-

terprising player who made a touchdown with the ball hidden under his jersey.

Those were the days when American football was in its infancy, yet in the comparatively short time since the middle of the last century, the United States has developed such a brand of play that it forces one to the conclusion that in spite of all of the entertaining features of football as played by other countries in other centuries, it was all merely the background and preparation for the climax of football history, our great American game of today.

#### Hockey

An amazing fact which might well be added to Ripley's collection of "Believe It or Not," is that the ancient Greeks played hockey. The proof of this was disclosed in 1922 by some archaeologists, who, excavating near Athens, uncovered a pedestal which they identified as having been constructed by Themistocles about 500 B. C. and on which are carved some boys playing hockey. Two with crooked sticks are bending over the ball ready for the bully, and four others are standing in position to receive it. Even down to small details the game is apparently identical with our modern one.

The Romans also played a game very similar to ours, using the same curved stick, but playing with a leather ball instead of a wooden one. Yet in spite of the undoubted connection between these ancient games and our modern one, it is impossible, because of the thousands of intervening years, to discover their true relationship.

#### Hockey in Great Britain

Actually, we can trace our hockey only back to its more recent ancestors, the Scotch, Irish, and English games. In these three countries hockey was called by a different name, but was played in almost exactly the same way. The Irish called their game "hurley," the Scotch named theirs "shinty," and the English, "bandy." Records reveal that the Irish played as early as the second century A. D. and that although nine usually played on a side, an unlimited number could take part. A quaint old Irish legend describes a game in which one lad of superhuman strength was matched against a hundred and fifty. He won a goal, thereby greatly annoying his opponents en masse, who proceeded to attack him. He managed to kill fifty, but was overcome in the end, and his head was knocked off by a hockey stick!



In Scotland the game seems to have been a little less blood-thirsty and a great deal more aristocratic, for at one time a Scotch king played. He was Alexander the Fierce who reigned in Scotland from 1107-1124, a strong and brave ruler who took greatly to the game, and in between his struggles to subdue his enemies, engaged in it often upon his native heath.

The history of hockey in England is almost entirely obscured by time, and is referred to in literature only at most infrequent intervals. The most interesting reference to it is in Macauley's "Essays on Bunyan," in which he remarks about Bunyan, that "bell-ringing and playing hockey on Sundays seems to have been the worst vices of this depraved tinker." From this we would infer that the game in England had become considerably tamed since its earliest days.

But in Scotland it continued to be almost as spirited as in the time of Alexander the Fierce, and whole clans would play against each other. It happened that late in the seventeen hundreds there was considerable feeling between the great Campbell and McLean clans, because the Campbells approved of the House of Hanover being on the throne of England, and the McLeans still sighed for the return of the Stuarts. So one day the Campbells challenged the McLeans to a Shinty, or Hockey match, to decide whether the Hanovers or the Stuarts were more fit to rule England. McLean ordered all of his men to appear without fail, and a cousin of his, Mrs. Clephane, fired with his enthusiasm, warned her tenants that if they did not go to the game, she would raise their rent. The consequence was that the McLean contingent that appeared for the match was far larger than the Campbell! From the customary beginning of burying the ball in a hole in the sand, and then struggling to find it, to the end of the game, the play was wild and fierce. But wily McLean kept some of his best men in reserve and sent them in from time to time to renew the fight against the exhausted Campbells. Finally, the latter admitted they could play no longer, and amid great rejoicing from every McLean in the clan, the Stuarts were acknowledged superior to the Hanoverians.

"The name 'hockey' cannot be claimed by either the Scotch or the Irish, but is derived from an old French word 'Hoquet,' meaning shepherd's crook. Just when the French took up the game is impossible to say, although it seems to have developed much later there than it did across the Channel. There is one exquisite relic, however, still preserved, which proves that it was played in France at least in the fifteenth century. This is a unique old prayer book that belonged to the Dutchess of Burgundy, in which there are several illustrations of fifteenth century games. One depicts the shepherds before the Nativity, playing hockey to warm themselves."

It was about the middle of the next century that hockey began to come into its own in England. Although played in an unscientific way, and varying in rules in different localities, it underwent an amazing revival throughout the island. By 1870 many clubs had been formed, and by 1875-76 uniform rules had been made for all clubs. But the real birthday of modern hockey was 1886,

for in that year the first Hockey Association was formed. Since then it has spread rapidly through both England and America and is played enthusiastically as well in Belgium, Holland, Germany, France, Denmark, Egypt, and India. The last named country boasts as many as 3,000 teams.

As far as women's hockey is concerned, the first women's club in England was formed in 1886, and it was introduced to the United States at Bryn Mawr in 1901 by an English enthusiast, Miss Constance Applebee. For some twenty years there was little interest in the sport among the fair sex of this country, but in 1921 an English women's team touring over here aroused great enthusiasm that has never waned, and today hockey is played in almost every girls' school and college in the country, and teams from the United States frequently take part in international matches.

### Ice Hockey

The latest and by far the most thrilling version of hockey is played on ice. Probably the fastest game ever played, it is of English origin, and was carried to Canada early in this century by Lord Stanley's suite when he came to be Governor-General of the Dominion. The Canadians took it up with great gusto, and in seeking opponents tried to start the sportsmen from the United States playing. The Canadians, naturally, did not object to the necessary freezing temperature, but their neighbors to the south most decidedly did. This country could not become enthusiastic about ice hockey until that great ice engineer, George C. Flunk, started building rinks with artificial ice. Now that the American public can keep its toes warm, it watches ice hockey as one of its greatest

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# Thanksgiving "Giblets"

"Is there anything new under the sun?" The answer seems to be "No" when holiday time rolls around! May you find a few suggestions here not too time-worn for your use!

**T**HESE a-little-bit-different Thanksgiving "giblets" which have been gleaned here and there from the wealth of almost-too-familiar material available on Thanksgiving, may serve to fill in that blank space in your plans which so far has defied all your efforts at solution.

If it's a harvest party you are having, this invitation may be used:

Hold open the *date* you'll find down below  
We're *raisin* some *pears* to *beat* it, you know  
To the *Harvest Farm Party* we're giving at night  
To cut up some *capers* and *cabbage* the right  
To *orange* a good time, and we don't care a *fig*,  
If you *turnip* the sod, you'll sure have to dig.  
The *peppery* gang might *squash* you, if late;  
So dress as a farmer and be there at eight.

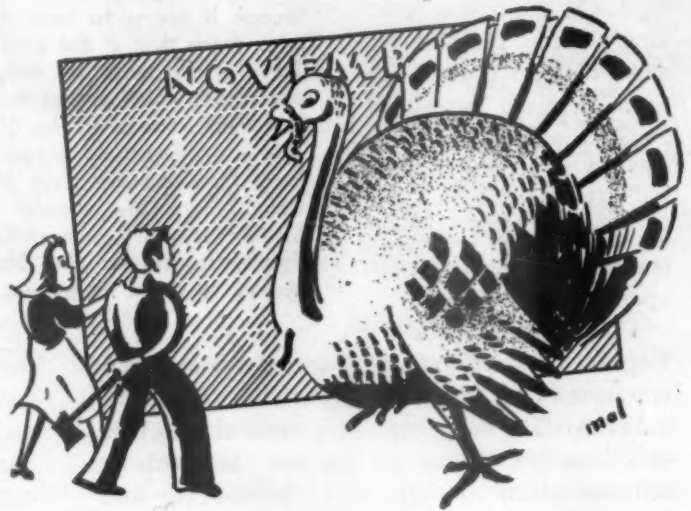
Hostess

Date

Or perhaps you need a skit for very small children at a party or on a program. The Nebraska State University Extension Service suggests these three skits in its Thanksgiving bulletin.

**Thanksgiving.** Twelve small children are selected. Each has a large square of orange cardboard hung on a card-around his neck. Each card bears a letter of the word "Thanksgiving" printed boldly in black. The letters are turned toward the children as they file out before the group. As each in turn says a line he turns his card over so the letter is visible.

T is for turkey, the biggest in town,  
H is for Hattie who baked it so brown,  
A is for apples the best we could find,  
N is for nuts that we eat when we've dined.  
K is for kisses for those we love best,  
S is for salad we serve to each guest,  
G is for gravy that everyone takes  
I is for ice cream that comes with the cakes,  
V is for verses on peppermint drops,  
I is for inquiries when anyone stops,  
N is for the way we nibble our cheese  
G is for grace when we've done with all these.



**Thanksgiving Dinner.** This skit requires six small children and a little larger child, and may be pantomimed or be acted with appropriate properties.

*Larger Child:* What do you want for Thanksgiving dinner?

Speak up loud and clear  
And before you say "Jack Robinson"  
It will all be here.

(Two children enter and set food, real or imaginary, on table)

*First Child:* Here come the celery stalks so tall

*Second Child:* Here comes the turkey, most important of all.

(Two more children enter)

*Third Child:* I've mashed potato as white as snow.

*Fourth Child:* We need sweet ones, too, of course you know.

(Fifth child enters)

*Fifth Child:* Here come the nuts and pumpkin pie  
As yellow as gold, and good—oh my!

*Larger Child:* (Steps forward to survey table.)  
Now the table is quite ready  
I'm sure that all is right

(Small girl enters)

But what can Ruth be bringing?  
*Ruth:* I bring an appetite.

—Winifred A. Hoag.

For older boys and girls or adults the Nebraska State University Extension Service suggests the following song, which may be altered with ease to fit any group or the solo parts may be completely re-written to fit a particular theme or party.

**Scarecrow Quartette.** The singers are costumed in ragged old clothes, exactly like scarecrows. Hay should be sticking from holes in hats and coats.

Cotton gloves stuck out on the ends of the hands make the fingers look more lifeless. When the curtain goes up, these figures are discovered standing among corn shocks. They assume the stiff attitude of scarecrows.

### Way Down Yonder in the Corn Field

1st—Oh we're the boys of Scarecrow Town  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field,  
2nd—We can't look up, so we all look down  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field.  
3rd—We stand and we stand and we stand all day  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field,  
4th—To frighten thieving crows away  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field.

1st—My! but the sun gets awful hot!  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field.  
2nd—Till we don't care if school keeps or not,  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field.  
3rd—And nobody in this whole big nation,  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field,  
4th—Thinks scarecrows need any vacation  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field,

1st—But now the things we've always prized  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field  
2nd—Have come to pass, for we've organized  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field.  
3rd—We're up to date now—nothing slow  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field,  
4th—For we joined (the Grange, Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, name of any local organization) you know  
All—Way down yonder in the corn field.

The Massachusetts State College Extension Specialist has compiled a Thanksgiving bulletin which suggests that the following may be portrayed in playlets, tableaux or shadow pictures:

#### A. Ancient deities

Ceres with a sheaf of wheat  
Mondamin, bearing maize  
Pomona, with apples (on a branch)  
Dionysus, carrying grapes on the vine  
Antomnus with the orange tree.

#### B. Our Forefathers' Time

A New England log cabin with figures of John Alden, Priscilla and Miles Standish  
Pilgrims' first Thanksgiving  
Pilgrims going to church

A WPA Recreation Bulletin from Montana tells of walnut favors to be made for a party. Unbroken walnut halves are fastened to a square of Omodelo (or glued to cardboard) and filled with small candies. A sail is made of paper for this small "Mayflower" and a mast is made from a toothpick. The favors become place cards when the recipient's name is written on the sail. The mast may be inserted in the candy or put in paraffin in the bottom of the empty shell.

For children the walnuts may be filled with paraffin with a string placed in it before it hardens. After the refreshments the "Mayflowers" with lighted wicks may be sailed on a dishpan sea.

Here are appropriate poems for recitation, dramatization or posting on bulletin boards:

*When the Frost is on the Pumpkin,*

James Whitcomb Riley

*Thanksgiving, Phoebe Cary*

*Harvest Hymn, The Pumpkin, The Corn Song*

John G. Whittier

*The Landing of the Pilgrims, Felicia Hemans*

*Selections from Courtship of Miles Standish,*

Henry W. Longfellow

These songs, as well as the lighter folk harvest songs, will add to your program:

*Harvest Home*—Twice 55 Community Songs  
(Green Book)\* .....\$.25  
*Landing of the Pilgrims*—Twice 55 Community  
Songs (Green Book) ..... .25  
*The Sun Worshipers*—Twice 55 Plus Community  
Songs (the New Brown Book)..... .15  
*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*—Twice 55 Plus  
Community Songs (the New Brown Book)..... .15  
*Alleluia*—Ten Folk Songs and Ballads..... .12  
*A Mighty Fortress* (Ein' Feste Burg)—in many col-  
lections of hymns

*America the Beautiful*—in many collections

\* The song books listed here may be obtained from the National Recreation Association.

### Bibliography

Here are sources of more ideas for your Thanksgiving program obtainable from the National Recreation Association:

*The Three Thanksgivings, a November Humoresque,*  
by Faith Van Valkenburgh Vilas .....\$.25  
To a worldly family with teen-age children, appear the figures of Thanksgiving Past, Present and Future who cause the family to change their plans. 32 characters.

*The Captain's Dilemma,* by Marion Holbrook..... .10  
A clever playlet version of the Courtship of Miles Standish.

*For a Happy Thanksgiving,* by A. D. Zanzig..... .10  
Full directions and suggestions for a Harvest Community Night. (Reprinted from the October 1936 RECREATION.)

*Harvest Festival,* by Marion Holbrook..... .10  
Suggestions for a dance, Old English Harvest revel, Pilgrim procession and a husking bee to be woven into a festival.

*A Thanksgiving Ceremonial* .....Free  
A brown-clothed Reader, a Choir, Earth Mother, Earth Children, Pilgrims, Pioneers and Those Who Share present a ceremonial largely of song and procession. Especially suitable for church or school.

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# An Unusual Band

By **GEORGE C. BERREMAN**  
Supervisor  
WPA Adult Education and Recreation  
Lane County, Oregon

**L**ANE COUNTY, Oregon, boasts a most unusual band in its WPA program. In it beginners sit beside master musicians, and the ages of its members vary from nine to over sixty years. The members represent a wide range of occupations as well, for there are barbers, farmers, clerks, teachers, architects, business men, bank employees and students in the band, the students ranging from the fifth grade to college. The fact that five of the members once directed bands makes the group even more out of the ordinary. One of these men wears a gold medal awarded him for winning a directing contest at the World's Fair in Chicago. One directed circus bands for years, and still another organized and directed a band in one of the local lodges for over ten years. These men take turns, with the director, at the baton.

It may seem that if beginners are to play side by side with master musicians only very elementary selections can be used, yet our numbers have included the following:

- Overtures: *William Tell* (simplified edition)  
*Light Cavalry*  
*Three Blind Mice*
- Serenades: *When Life is Brightest*  
*Cupid's Chorus*
- Circus: *Chicken Roll*  
*Bear Cat*
- Marches: *Our Director*  
*Washington Gray*

The problem of using beginners is met by having experienced players sit beside them and coach them in the difficult numbers. Beginners are also asked to come early to practice, thus receiving extra practice and help from the director, and some inexperienced players take lessons at home or at school. In beginning a new piece the less skilled players sometimes sit watching and listening for a short time, thus training the ear and observing the technique to be attained.

Group morale and group solidarity are further cemented by social activities. Often the members of the band attend a movie together following the concert or a rehearsal. Sometimes light refreshments are served. Some little social feature is planned each week.

The band has none of the advantages accorded the musicians working under the Federal Music Project, for no player except the director

is paid for his services. No music is furnished; there is no provision for a place of meeting and no funds are available to purchase instruments. These essentials must be secured as best they can.

The problem of a meeting place was solved by using the county court room. Some of the instruments used were owned by members of the group, some were furnished by the director, and some were borrowed or purchased on credit. Music was purchased on credit when necessary, and benefit concerts, private donations and subscriptions were used to cancel the indebtedness. In some cases the music was furnished by the director, in others it was borrowed. A good deal of ingenuity was necessary, since it is no light task to provide music for a band of seventy-five members using sixty pieces.

The band has played for business houses, public forums, parades, a county produce show, public markets, an old men's horseshoe tournament and civic functions. If at all possible, all calls for the services of the band are granted. This summer a number of children were added to the group and the entire band was incorporated into the large recreation program which the City of Eugene, in cooperation with the WPA recreation staff sets up each summer.

Mr. R. G. Dykstra, the director of this unusual band, was a member of the University of Washington band during his student days. He then spent fifteen years as superintendent of schools in various communities. Later as educational advisor in the CCC camps he won recognition for outstanding work. Last year he served as director of a neighboring high school band which took second place in the state contest.

According to a statement issued by the National Association of Band Instrument Manufacturers over 2,000,000 boys and girls are now playing in school bands. There are from 35,000 to 40,000 school bands in the United States, and the number is rapidly increasing. School music, as a cultural interest, is making itself felt.





## San Francisco's Junior Museum

**A** JUNIOR MUSEUM, established in the fall of 1935, is the interesting and ambitious project of the San Francisco Recreation Commission. It seeks to help young people realize the beauties of nature, the important facts of history and the achievements of man, to illustrate the principles of science and to provide opportunities for creative education through various activities or hobbies. It is also its objective to help other existing agencies in developing and maintaining wholesome personalities in children.

The Commission hopes further, as the officials of the Brooklyn Children's Museum have expressed it, "to build up gradually a museum that will delight and instruct the children who visit it; to bring together collections in every branch of Natural history that is calculated to interest children, and to stimulate their powers of observation and reflection by collections and pictures, cartoons and charts, models, maps and so on, in each of the important branches of knowledge which is taught in the elementary schools.

"The museum through its collections, library director, curators and assistants will attempt to bring the child, whether attending school or not, into direct relation with the most important subjects that appeal to the interest of

children in their daily life in the school room, in their reading, in their games and rambles in the fields, and in the industries that are being carried on about them or in which they themselves later may become engaged."

### Activities

Already an imposing number of activities are being carried on. By April, 1937, boys and girls might be found busily engaged, after school hours and on Saturdays, in any of the following:

**Nature Study.** The study of wild flowers, trees and shrubs; collecting, pressing and classifying; casting flowers and leaves in wax, and wild flower painting trips are offered young botanists.

Those interest in geology may study rocks and minerals, volcanoes, glaciers, erosion, soil, fossils and earthquakes. They are shown methods of collecting and classifying rocks and minerals and are taken on field trips.

Birds, insects and amphibians are studied in the museum and in the field. Children learn how to collect, classify and mount insects. They go on bird hikes.

Would-be gardeners are offered garden architecture, gardening, flower arrangement, and may study soil, plant growth, flower books, the care

### THE PURPOSE

"To make possible the complete visualization of the potential values which lie in the free time now available to the youth of the nation under our present economic set-up, if they can be led to utilize such leisure in wholesome recreational pursuits that not only provide enjoyment but lend their influence in developing the physical well-being, mental poise, personality and general outlook upon life that go to make fine, sturdy men and women and good, dependable citizens."

of house plants and the construction of miniature and rock gardens.

Those who love the beach and shore can study sea life in field trips and collect shells and other marine forms, classifying them, mounting and preserving them correctly.

**Handcraft.** Many a model hobbyist finds leaders and tools to help him in his "work" at the museum. Opportunities are provided for making models of aeroplanes, gliders, boats (modern and ancient), railroads and dwellings. The young scientist, too, may use the workshop, making bird houses, bird feeding stations and collecting equipment such as insect nets and plant presses. The geologist—or anyone else—may make relief maps of some area he or she has explored.

**Clubs.** Some of the activities are run on a club basis. In April of this year a child might choose from among the following clubs: Wildflower, Bird Study, Butterfly, Biology, Geology, Model Aeroplane, Model Ship, Model Railroad and Model Stamp Club.

**Future Plans.** As new material is added, more activities will be offered to the playground directors and their groups. The museum hopes in the near future to add forestry, Indian lore, basket weaving, leathercraft and art.

A program will be arranged for nature study walks and collecting trips to be conducted by a member of the museum staff. This program will consist of general nature study walks and bird hikes; wild flower, insect and rock-collecting trips, and trips to local museums and zoos.

**Children's Art Gallery.** It is proposed that a central space be provided for California work, with smaller gallery cubicles for exhibits of other countries around the Pacific and general European and Eastern American cities.

"One of the most interesting manifestations in the world today is the art work of children. This is evidenced in numerous recent exhibitions and collections of children's paintings and sculptures. In the wake of the progressive movement in education and enlightened legislation in many countries, children's art work of a high standard of excellence and originality of conception has delighted and amazed the world of adult spectators and encouraged to greater expression the creative life of children."

#### Administration

The museum is a division of the San Francisco Recreation Commission, which has put in general charge of the museum and its activities a general committee with members from Stanford University and the University of California, from the California Academy of Sciences and similar institutions. The staff is made up of both employed and volunteer workers and consists of a director, Mr. B. C. Walker, and a number of technical and clerical assistants.

Readers of RECREATION who wish to secure additional information regarding this interesting and unique experiment in providing a junior museum may obtain it by writing the Recreation Commission, City Hall, San Francisco, California.



# Recreation Rehabilitates the Shut-in

By EDUARD C. LINDEMAN

Director

Recreation Division

Works Progress Administration

**T**ODAY A NEW hope beats in the hearts of the thousands of maladjusted, handicapped, and underprivileged in our public institutions. State Recreation Divisions of the Works Progress Administration have, by providing trained leadership, led the way in an experimental program looking toward a more humane approach to the problem of readjusting these people to social life.

The need for a recreation program in their institutions has been recognized by heads of prisons, reformatories, detention homes, orphanages, and hospitals of all sorts. Mr. R. A. McGee, Warden of the New York City Penitentiary writes, "Everyone is agreed that recreation has a positive therapeutic value. However, the chief weakness of the recreational programs in institutions in the past has been a lack of skilled supervision." WPA leaders have been trained on the job for guiding children and adults in recreation activities. During the past two years, emergency recreation leaders have had an opportunity to offset the lack of supervision and conduct a program which is frankly experimental.

A recent survey of this institutional recreation program, now in its third year in many places, was made in fifteen states and New York City. Expressions of appreciation from institution officials show that the program is a success. It has adjusted individuals to institutional routines and left them with a healthy outlook, ready and anxious to resume a normal place in the life of the outside world. With its emphasis on the rehabilitation of the individual, it has moderated some of the traditional systems of discipline. Many public welfare heads have proved its value by accepting both the program and its leaders as a permanent tax-supported part of institutional life.

The policy of the emergency recreation program in institutions has been stated thus: "It is not

enough to supply the medical and physical needs of those who are institutionalized. The complete person must be served. He must be assisted in his

adjustment to institutional life, and to life beyond the institution walls. Institutions should not be regarded as places in which to confine people from whom society needs protection. Institutions should properly be regarded as centers of rehabilitation with an ultimate return to normal society as the objective.

"By providing recreation leaders to public institutions, it is hoped that the general public will respond sufficiently to permit the inclusion of these activities as a necessary and permanent part of institutional responsibility."

There has been little chance heretofore for laboratory analysis of a recreation program in action in institutions. Methods and procedures were of necessity experimental at first. Close cooperation with experts in criminology and mental therapy in basic research and observation of WPA programs has led to worthwhile discoveries. Some recognition has been given by members of the professions who have watched these experiments with interest.

## Puppetry in Psychiatric Wards

The best known and most outstanding development has been the production of puppet plays in the psychiatric ward for children of Bellevue Hospital, New York City.\* The emotionally-disturbed youngsters, obsessed with hatred of parents and all forms of discipline and order, have identified themselves with the puppet characters and found harmless release for vicious impulses. Through their spontaneous responses they direct the action of the play. These unconscious comments and

*Recreation welcomes this opportunity to publish an article telling of emergency recreation programs in institutions. The National Recreation Association for a number of years has promoted play in institutions and since 1930 has employed a special worker who has given full time to helping institutions of various types develop recreational programs. The Association also maintains a bulletin service to institutions and from time to time publishes articles on some phase of the subject. Increasingly local municipal recreation departments are extending their services to shut-ins. It is encouraging to know that the Federal government, by supplying emergency recreation leaders to public institutions, is making a more widespread program possible in this important field.*

\* A complete report of this project may be found in "The use of puppet shows as a psychotherapeutic method for behavior problems in children" by Lauretta Bender, M.D. and Adolf G. Woltmann; pp. 341-354, *The American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, Vol. VI, No. 3, July, 1936.



those made later when the children in a group discuss the play have given psychiatrists an insight into the character of their disturbances. Case histories of each child's reaction, made by nurses and doctors, are used to plan hospital and post-hospital treatment.

The main character in the majority of the plays is Casper, a German folk character similar to the English Punch. "He is eager, searching, curious, freely expressing his wants; active, responding to his inner needs, without feelings of guilt or anxiety; only wanting what he wants and determined to get it; he is aggressive if necessary, he is bound to succeed and he cannot be hurt, and after each adventure he is always ready for the next one; he is reasonably brave, but does not hesitate to run away when it is advisable; and he has a strong sense of his own superiority and no feelings of inferiority because there is always help at hand when he is too weak for any situation. In other words, Casper represents all that the child would like to be himself." Other characters—Charlie the monkey, the policeman, the alligator—represent familiar friends or enemies, particularly parents.

At crucial points in the stories, the audience directs Casper's actions in no uncertain terms. In answer to his question, "What shall we do about schools?" comes the roaring response, "Burn 'em!"

"What about mothers and fathers?"

"Kill 'em!"

But this time there are dissenting voices, "Let my mother alone." Sometimes fights break out immediately between the two factions. Casper cajoles. He asks how they would like to be killed, how they would feel if they no longer had mothers. In time the group agrees with the original dissenters.

The children themselves make the puppets, which helps them to see the humor and unreality in Casper being attacked by the bad alligator. The puppeteer, whom the children know as Uncle Casper, works very closely with them. Because of his identification with Casper the puppet, they find it much easier to talk intimately with him than with nurses or doctors. Information he gains in this informal way is most useful to the psychiatrist.

#### Recreation in Prisons

The recreation leader in the State Prison, at Waupun, Wisconsin, was faced with a difficulty common to most institutions. Because of the predetermined schedule of the prison, he had only a

short exercise period in which to conduct his physical activities. The situation was met by his developing a new game which he calls scrimmage ball. This combination of soccer and basketball calls for four teams playing at the same time. With twelve on a team, it keeps forty-eight men in action all through this short period.

These organized games have helped to ease the tension for the men and have, in a way, reversed their standards. "Their attitude toward society is one of suspicion," writes the recreation officer of the prison. "It is a natural attitude and to be expected. This same attitude, in some isolated instances, carries over into any project of the prison. I am glad to state, however, that the great majority of the inmates have welcomed the recreation program. These men, however, are largely ignorant of the idea of sportsmanship, of fair play. . . . In the recreation program they are learning to abide by the decisions of others, to cooperate with their teammates, to accept and perform their duties in the game, to become a cog in a larger machine, to forget their own preferences in favor of the well-being of something more important than their own individual interests—learning all this, not because of superimposed authority, but because it is taken for granted that they are there to play the game, and that is the only way to play it."

Craft work introduced into the prison ward of Kingston Avenue Hospital, Brooklyn, where women receive treatment while awaiting trial, has had a similar effect. A resentful and suspicious group at the start of the program two years ago, the girls now enjoy the privilege of occupation. They are proud of the woven, knitted, crocheted, and braided articles made in the separate room set apart for their use. The design and workmanship of the articles are good, although the majority had had no experience in handicrafts.

#### Hospital Recreation

Hospital attendants often have reason to thank recreation leaders who make their work less difficult. In Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn, a serious problem was presented by the large group of children wandering through the halls on visiting day. Hospital regulations barred children under twelve from the adult wards on this day. When at last one person was injured, a request was made for a recreation leader to organize activities for these forty-odd stray children. A directed program of story-telling, active games, and



**A youthful patient in St. Luke's Hospital, Riverside, California, drawing pictures to illustrate stories told him by a WPA worker.**



singing games soon solved the problem to the benefit of the children as well as the hospital attendants. Mothers took an interest and went home with information about stories and games which might be taught their own children. A similar problem was solved by the same method in a Detroit Children's Clinic waiting room.

It has been found that music is very soothing to the insane. The State Hospital in Pontiac, Michigan, although skeptical of the outcome, allowed the WPA to set up a music project as an experiment within the hospital. It has turned out so successfully that the officials of the hospital are considering giving the project director permanent employment. It is a particularly impressive performance, the inmates singing, perhaps a little too lustily, in the chapel, accompanied by one of their number. An orchestra also has been formed in the hospital to play at concerts and small affairs, and especially at meal time. Although capable of carrying on a conversation, the inmates do not talk very much at dinner. Music fills the gap.

At Mendota State Hospital, Mendota, Wisconsin, social dancing has been added to the music program for the insane. The patients enjoy their dances, hardly able to wait from one number to the next. They conduct themselves in a surprisingly civilized and well mannered fashion. All are given individual attention.

#### **The Physically Handicapped**

Their physical handicaps need no longer cut off the crippled, the blind and the disabled from normal existence. No matter how limited the patient's abilities, they can often be expanded. Now the blind tap dance so well that on occasion they have been requested to provide an evening's entertainment, the crippled wrestle, and those with speech disorders debate. To accomplish these results, recreation leaders in institutions were forced to discover new methods of instruction.

In New York City the recreation program for the blind is as complete as any other program in the city. It includes swimming and bowling, forums, public speaking, games, dancing, dra-

matICS, and music. Game room activities for children seek to develop the sense of hearing to replace in some degree their lost sight. Rolling a ball toward the person calling for it helps the blind child recognize the voice of the person speaking and estimate direction and distance from the sound. Added difficulties in teaching dancing are met when the participant is deaf and dumb as well as blind. Recreation leaders cooperating with the community workers for the blind have used a simplified code by which they tap out instructions in the palm of the participant's hand.

A program of physical activities, social dancing and simple dramatics is carried on in the Institute for the Crippled and Disabled in New York City. All patients, some wearing artificial limbs and carrying crutches, participate in at least a part of the program. Normal play with other members of the group helps to eliminate self-consciousness as well as provide necessary exercise. Muscular control is restored to many in the therapeutic pool, with swimming instructors assisting. Rehabilitation is carried as far as possible by close cooperation with the employment service of the crippled and disabled. Rhythm and motion in music, dramatics and games tend to ease the body strain and tension which are the base for many speech disorders. These activities form only a part of the full recreation program established by WPA in the National Hospital for Speech Disorders, New York City.

### Convalescents at Play

The convalescent child is a problem all to himself, not so much to the physician as to the nurses. Sometimes, petulant with illness or restless with returning health, he tries various toys, tiring almost immediately. And here it is wise to remember that such petulance, such restlessness, would have to be met by busy nurses if the recreation workers were not available. Nurses think in terms of the very sick. A convalescing patient must be left to himself more or less. This the child patient resents. He has had attention, perhaps too much, from parents at home. His ego is hurt when a sicker child in the ward demands the nurse's attention, and he begins to marshal his needs and his demands. If ignored, he becomes fretful, more conscious of his physical condition, retarded in his convalescence, and a real problem to nurses.

In the Children's Hospital in Detroit there are four recreation leaders who are greeted by convalescent children with a friendly, "Hi, teacher!" as they make their daily rounds with three-tiered carts. Out of the carts come toys, games, sketch pads, crayolas, paper and paste, rubber balls and dolls. Attention is given to making special toys adaptable to the convalescing child. Paints, clay and similar materials are omitted because they are unsuitable to use in bed. The child is occupied, and at the same time creative. Often the desire to draw or build is awakened not by direct instruction but by bedside story-telling. Soon the child himself, instead of the leader, is drawing the illustrations for the stories. An attempt is made to bring even the most isolated child into this group activity.

"An occupied child is a child who gets well quicker," says Miss Roger, Superintendent. "He will not dwell upon his sickness, upon symptoms, etc., as will an adult, and if kept busy will have a healthy mental attitude toward his experience."

### Tuberculosis Sufferers Benefited

In the tuberculosis wards particularly, recreation does more than merely occupy the child. At Metropolitan Hospital, New York City, the usual story-telling hour is built around the theme of food. This helps to stimulate lagging appetites, one of the symptoms of tubercular children. At the same time, politeness, neatness, personal hygiene, generosity and other good habits can be instilled into the children by giving these traits to the likeable characters in the stories. The program gives attention, too, to singing games which do not tire

the children. But the illusion of motion in these action songs makes them a satisfactory emotion and energy release.

### Biblio-Therapy

Book service has been provided for patients in all types of institutions. The service is expanded to personal interviews to determine reading preferences. The distribution of books has been correlated with other activities, particularly discussion groups, which are conducted even for the children. One more tie is thus established between the group inside and the world outside through reading and discussion. It is interesting to note that a New York doctor has applied the title of "Biblio-Therapy" to this program.

### Facilities

One of the major difficulties recreation leaders found at the start of the program in institutions was the inadequacy, or total lack, of facilities for recreation. A survey of the facilities was undertaken by the WPA in Wisconsin as one of the first acts in the program. A file of floor plans and layouts for existing buildings and areas is now available in the state office. When this information is matched with the need in each locality, they have a basis for intelligent planning.

Meanwhile, construction or repair of recreation facilities has kept up with the bare necessities of the program. Ingenious methods have been used to transform rooms and buildings lying idle into tenable quarters. A former dance hall was transported in two parts from Madison to the State Hospital at Mendota, ten miles away. There it serves both as social center and field house; it is located at the head of a large area which will soon be a new athletic field. Well-equipped playgrounds occasionally were discovered to be unused or misused because of lack of leadership. Craft rooms were re-decorated by the participants themselves, tools solicited, and articles made entirely from scrap material.

Every state report shows that institution directors have recognized this need for facilities. Public institutions are now proceeding with building programs in most cases; private agencies have been unable to do as much because of lack of funds. Encouraging cooperation has come from interested bodies which enabled many to carry on with makeshifts. Donations made it possible for the Monroe County Home, Rochester, New

(Continued on page 451)

# The Art of Pitching Horseshoes

By TEMPLE R. JARRELL

Department of Playgrounds  
Washington, D. C.

**I**N ANCIENT TIMES, when Rome and Greece were world powers, the soldiers found exercise and sport in throwing the discus. The camp followers could not indulge in such contests because they lacked both the money to buy a discus or the means to manufacture one. However, when horseshoes were invented to protect the hoofs of animals traveling over mountains or through rock-strewn passes, the followers picked up the discarded shoes, and fashioned them into discus form.

At first they merely tossed the closed horseshoes through the air aiming only for distance. These people soon tired of this form of play because tossing the light imitations of a heavy discus was not highly entertaining. Seeking for some game where quoit throwing could be made truly competitive they settled upon the quoit pitching game of today by pitching at a stake. The discus or quoit nearest the stake counted a point.

Years later these people grew tired of bending a horseshoe into a circle so they merely tossed the shoes as they were found. This was the beginning of horseshoe pitching which in modern times has come into popularity with tremendous strides while quoit pitching, so far as the United States is concerned, is almost a lost art.

The pitching of quoits and horseshoes, started by the nondescripts and derelicts who trailed the ancient armies, found great favor among the soldiers and quickly became a sport among Grecian and Roman royalty, nobility and aristocracy. The crowned heads of Europe played one or both games all through the centuries. England boasted of having the greatest quoit and horseshoe pitchers in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

The game of horseshoes was played under haphazard rules until 1869 when the English drew up the first set of rules and regulations. The same rules applied to both horseshoes and quoits. Later these were changed, the two games were separated and a different set of rules was drafted for each.

Just when horseshoe pitching was first recognized as a sport in the United States is

not known. However, the game was extremely popular among soldiers of both armies during the Revolutionary War.

Whether the game was played in the United States prior to that time or was taught to Americans by captured British troops is unknown.

The first actual horseshoe pitching club in this country was known as the Tourists Club and was formed in Long Beach, California, in 1900. Horseshoe pitchers from all parts of the United States and Canada enrolled in this club. This was followed by the creation of similar organizations throughout the country.

In 1909, the little town of Bronson, Kansas, announced the first international horseshoe pitching contest, declaring, "this tournament is open to the world." Frank Jackson, an Iowa farmer, was the winner of this contest. This tournament led to others elsewhere and the outcome was the creation in 1915 of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America, which, until 1929, was in complete control of the sport and conducted tournaments in the south during the winter and usually in the middle west during the summer months. This association is now a professional organization.

An amateur organization called the American Horseshoe Pitchers Association was formed in 1929, with headquarters in Chicago. It enlisted the aid of newspapers throughout the United States to arrange a nation-wide amateur championship tournament. These newspapers conducted horseshoe pitching contests in their own territories in 1930. The winners of the local tournaments participated in the national tournament in Chicago in September 1930.

## How to Pitch Horseshoes

A diagram showing the layout of a standard official horseshoe court is presented in Figure I. A typical official horseshoe, showing its blade and toe and heel calks is illustrated in Figure II.

The one and three-quarter and the one and one-quarter turns have proven to be the best turns to use in pitching the shoe.

Mr. Jarrell was the Maryland State horseshoe pitching champion for the years 1935-1937. The interesting material he presents on the historical beginnings of the game has been taken from the *All-Sports Record Book* and is used by permission of Frank G. Menke. Copies of this book may be secured from Mr. Menke at 235 East 45th Street, New York City.



**The One and Three-Quarter Turn.** When using this turn, the shoe revolves one and three-quarter times as it passes through the air from the hand of the pitcher to the stake. A diagram of the turn is shown in Figure III.

If correctly thrown, the heel calks of the shoe should first touch the clay surrounding the stake and the open section should be pointed toward the stake.

In throwing the one and three-quarter turn properly, one should firmly grasp the shoe in such a way that the thumb is placed on top and straight across the shoe blade, four inches from the heel calk. The knuckle of the forefinger is placed under and wrapped around the inner circle of the shoe, two and three-quarter inches from the inner projections of the hook at the heel of the shoe. The thumb and forefinger release the shoe last, thus giving it the turning motion required. The fourth and little fingers are placed next to and touching the toe calk. These fingers act as a brace. The middle finger, located under and wrapped around the inner edges of the shoe, in the same way as the forefinger just described, act as a support as well as a governor to slow down or speed up the turning motion of the shoe. The height at which this turn is thrown should be between six and a half to nine feet from the ground.

The position of the feet of the pitcher is an important item. He should stand with his feet together, side by side. A right-handed pitcher should stand approximately eighteen inches to the side and slightly to the rear and to the left of the stake. A left-handed pitcher should

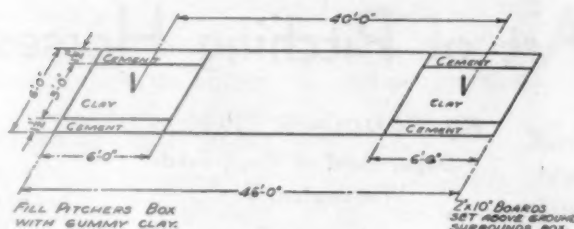


Figure I

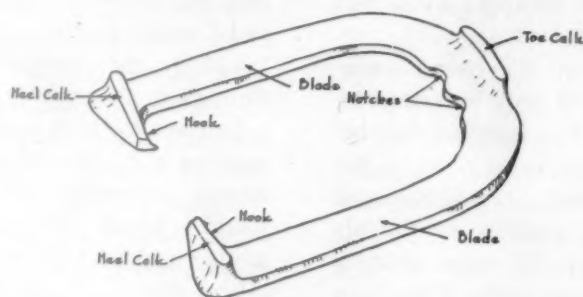


Figure II

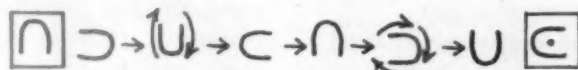


Figure III—The One and Three-Quarter Turn

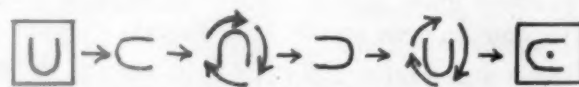


Figure IV—The One and One-Quarter Turn

stand to the right of the stake.

**The One and One-Quarter Turn.** The one and one-quarter turn which revolves one-half a turn less than the one and three-quarter turn and which is shown in Figure IV, is obtained

by wrapping the fore and middle fingers around the inner edge of the shoe with the thumb extending across the top and between the tips of the above fingers. The third finger may either be wrapped around the inner circle or held under the shoe to aid the little finger in balancing the heel. These latter two fingers greatly aid in leveling the shoe as it leaves the hand. A firm grip is absolutely necessary so that the shoe will not slip before the follow through is completed.

The better one and one-quarter pitchers grip the shoe nearer the heel calks with the little finger pressed against the calks in order to obtain the longer swing and a well landed shoe. The height of the shoe should be between seven to ten feet from the

ground.

One should remember that the grip is the only part of the body which is not relaxed while pitching. The shoe, in order to secure the correct degree of wobble, should be held at an angle to the ground rather than in the flat position, that is, held parallel with the surface of the ground.

It is also important for one to sight the shoe and the stake before starting the backswing for the delivery. Robert Brown, former New York State horseshoe champion, in his article, "You Can Improve Your Horseshoe Game," in the March, 1935,

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# Stamps and Recreation

By

JOHN M. HURLEY  
Park Department  
Hartford, Connecticut



THE COLLECTING and studying of stamps is an educational-recreational activity well deserving of a place on a well-rounded recreation program. The cultivation of this hobby as a worthwhile leisure time activity is highly desirable, embracing as it does history, art, geography, civics, printing, design, financial valuations, concentration, research and social contacts—a combination probably unequalled by any other form of recreation.

Curiously enough, while there is scarcely a town or city in the country without stamp clubs and stamp collectors, as a part of the recreation program this activity has been all too often overlooked. In fact, this fertile field is, officially, ignored entirely in many municipalities where philately flourishes among children and adults.

Some of the values of this hobby are to be found in the fact that it sets no age limits; that it has not only a permanent value to the individual but a constantly increasing one; that it is not new but has been passed on from generation to generation, and that it has an appeal for all classes, the poor as well as the rich, the slow-witted as well as the brilliantly intellectual.

Hartford, Connecticut, the insurance center of the world and the capital of the state where Uncle Sam daily delivers a tremendous volume of mail, is a city that for years paid little attention to its opportunity. This, despite the fact that few places harbor more stamp clubs and philately nowhere enjoys more widespread popularity. It was not, however, until Federal funds enabled Super-

visor of Recreation James H. Dillon and his WPA-Recreation Division to enlarge the indoor program for the community centers that stamp clubs were organized as a supervised recreation project.

There has never been an activity in Hartford greeted with such instantaneous success and approval. Boys and girls and adults flocked to the clubs, parents dug into trunks and attics for collections, many of them valuable, that were started years ago, and young men who previously shunned recreation centers began to attend and gradually extended their interest to other features of the program.

Realizing that expert guidance and instruction was a prime requisite for the success of the clubs, Mr. Dillon launched his plan by obtaining the services of Joseph S. Miller, an outstanding authority who has devoted a lifetime to the study of stamps and who had the added advantages of years of experience as a teacher.

Mr. Miller is a firm believer in the importance of philately for children and as a vital force in educational recreation. "I believe," he says, "that in addition to the training in cleanliness in the proper handling of stamps and the neatness of their arrangement in albums, the knowledge gleaned of history, art, geography and civics tends to make the child more alert and emphasizes in the eyes of children the constantly changing wonders of civilization in the past and the present."

As a beginning, Mr. Miller organized ten groups of girls and boys in ten different community centers into stamp clubs. He met with

these groups at least once a week. Only girls and boys were accepted who displayed a genuine interest in stamps. Mr. Miller supervised each meeting and divided the members into age groups, the younger ones meeting afternoons from 3.30 to 5.30 o'clock and the older ones in the evenings from 6.30 until 8.30 o'clock. In order that each club might function smoothly and properly, simple constitutions and by-laws were adopted and definite programs put into effect. Officers were elected for a term of three months, and many children were found with a considerable knowledge of parliamentary procedure, thanks to their affiliations with school clubs.

#### At the Club Meetings

Each meeting comprises two distinct sections, one the business and educational, the other the trading period. At the educational session Mr. Miller tells stamp stories of all countries, illustrating them with displays of actual stamps from his extensive collections, and keeping the members informed on current trends in philately. For example, if a new stamp is announced, he describes its historical significance, its design, color, peculiarities and perforations, and even arranges for the students to obtain covers from cities of first day issue.

When this part of the program is over the trading (and excitement) begins. Each member has an album and a box of duplicates for exchange. When a youngster finds a stamp he desires in another's collection, to obtain it he must permit the other to rummage through his collection to find a stamp or stamps of equivalent value or desirability. Such procedure adds zest and friendly rivalry to the meetings.

Parents display almost as much interest in stamps and the clubs as children. Many attend the meetings with their children and help with advice and encouragement. Several have passed on to children collections of value, including one that has a rarity that would command several thousand dollars in the philately market.

From the outset the collecting of stamps as a financial exchange was not encouraged for it is liable to detract from the educational value of the study. In the clubs the children are prohibited from buying or selling for cash, and every transaction must be on the basis of trading. The financial phase, however, is never absent from Mr. Miller's mind for, underlying all his plans, is the hope that in years to come the collections

now in the process of accumulation will have a sufficient monetary value so their cash equivalent will pay, in whole or in part, for a college education for the young collector.

"I have seen this work out many times and to the enormous benefit of the child," Mr. Miller asserts. "Many children start collecting when they are seven or eight years old. Parents start collections for others even younger than that. When these children are ready for college their collections have grown in size and importance and can be converted into enough cash to pay for one or more years tuition."

In the stamp classes Mr. Miller devotes particular attention to the less fortunate type of children whose parents cannot afford an outlay of money either for stamps, albums or outfits. In his efforts to provide equal benefits for all members, regardless of race, creed or financial standing, Mr. Miller has required children whose affluent parents went to extremes to encourage their children's interest, to give up expensive albums and costly purchases. In their place, he insists they acquire and use cheaper books more in keeping with the other children in the class. The album, of course, is the beginning of the collection, and an ordinary ten cent variety is preferred because its cost is within the reach of practically every child and because it keeps all the young collectors on the same level.

Mr. Miller helps the youngsters acquire their first stamps, restricting their early efforts exclusively to United States issues. He himself donates and distributes hundreds of specimens from his own collection. His usual procedure is to prepare a pailful of unsorted, mixed stamps and permit each child to help himself to a handful. He then supervises the drying, sorting, identification and posting of each stamp.

"It is encouraging," Mr. Miller says, "to see how the children of better financial status help their less fortunate club members acquire a collection. They are very generous and often go out of their way to cooperate, giving freely of their own stamps from duplicate stocks and trading books."

The history of every stamp is studied, both from a philatelic and historical standpoint, particular attention being paid to the period, the geography, the purpose, the person or place or event it honors, its characteristics, color, pattern, printing and paper. When the new Army and

*(Continued on page 453)*



# New Audiences

Of the 5,000,000 people attending outdoor Caravan performances since its inception three years ago, 75% had never seen the "living" stage

THE CARAVAN theaters are perhaps the most ingenious device the WPA Federal Theater has discovered in its campaign to make this city "theater conscious." Audience figures released by the project on the vast number of persons attracted by these mobile units, tell a most convincing and heartening story.

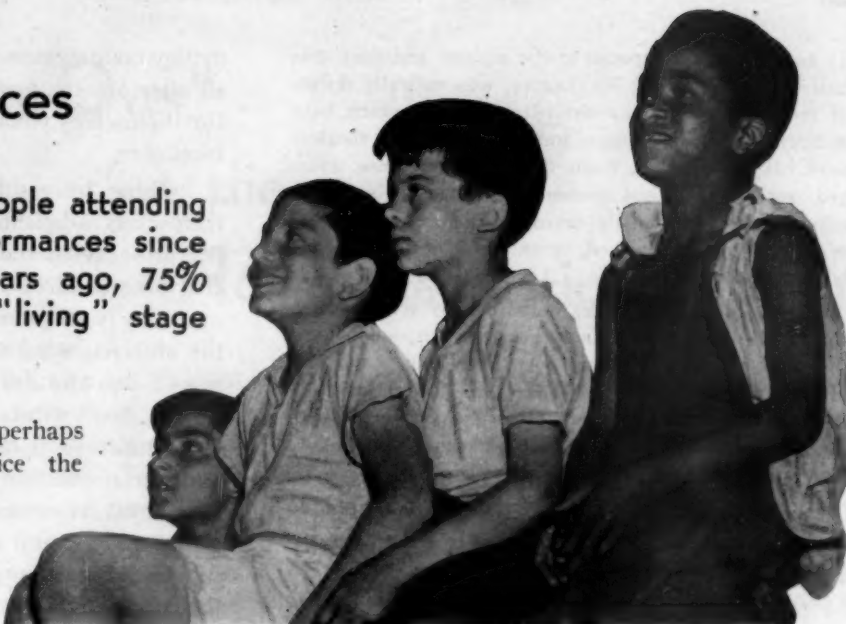
The caravan is a large trailer van, drawn by a truck. The trailer itself is a compact unit, carrying stage equipment, dressing rooms and complete amplification systems. Closed it measures 8 feet wide, 30 feet long and 8 feet 6 inches from floor to ceiling.

## Back of the Scene

It takes workmen about an hour to ready the Caravan for production. A front collapsible apron unfolds into a stage, and an apron extended from the back and complemented by folding tarpaulin walls and ceiling forms separate dressing rooms for male and female players. Opened the van measures 20 feet deep, 30 feet wide, 12 feet 6 inches from floor to ceiling—thus providing ample space for the actors to make their exits and to perform without falling over one another on the stage.

Electricians plug in on the nearest available city outlet and see that the lights are working properly, while stagehands get the scenery in order for the production. The show is then ready to go on.

The smooth performance of the Caravan sound apparatus these last two seasons was not achieved without difficulty and experimentation. Technically the unit has made long strides forward since the first Caravan rolled into Thomas Jefferson Park in July, 1934 under CWA auspices. Burns Mantle, who was present, records: "The ampli-



Courtesy WPA Federal Theater Photos

fying system was not working, and when it did work a normal amplification was frequently interrupted by those screeches only a protesting amplifier is capable of making."

Mayor La Guardia who formally opened the Caravan's first presentation, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," was like many others, displeased with the mechanics. Through his active encouragement and the tenacity of Cleon Throckmorton, then head of the Federal Theater Workshop, a sound system was evolved which could throw the voice of the actor to the farthest corner of the park. The amplifiers are of the same type used in Madison Square Garden, and what is more important, they do not record the noise in front of the footlights.

Mechanics were not, however, the only worry of government theater administrators. Just as perplexing was the problem of ascertaining the type of theater fare the caravans could safely offer to its movie-bred audiences.

## The Audiences Approve!

Early repertoire included "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Baby Mine," "The Whole Town's Talking," "The Goose Hangs High," and "Aladdin's Lamp." It is interesting to observe the reaction of these new theater-goers to favorites of a past era. Sanderson Vanderbilt reports the comparative reactions of two types of audiences for the *Herald Tribune*:

"The reaction of the audience, however, to this type of throwback to the last century, ("Uncle Tom's Cabin":

ed) as well as its response to the sinister and duly emphasized evil nature of Mr. Legree, was radically different from the playful hiss-the-villain parties which have suddenly come into vogue among enlightened theatergoers. It was evident from the first that these wide-eyed, serious men and women, boys and girls in the audience were emotionally moved by the fair-haired, innocent Eva and the wicked, brutal slave dealers of New Orleans.

"In this regard the actors found a more truly sympathetic audience—and one more ready to respond naively to straight-forward character portrayal—than is the case of those who appear on the boards in 'The Drunkard,' where a beer-drinking group jeers the villain and applauds virtue more as a game than because the play really carries emotional appeal."

The constant outpouring of thousands of people from tenements and apartment houses, and the increasing weekly and yearly attendance, prove that the people, once introduced to the magic of the living stage, find in it a vital and appealing medium of entertainment.

Letters which came in the hundreds to the project expressed the gratitude of men, women and children—sometimes humbly—for the theater entertainment the government gave them without charge.

The Federal Theater, on the whole, has paced its productions well. Audiences had developed to a point during the second year where it was considered prudent to introduce on the trucks Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors," "The Emperor's New Clothes," "Broken Dishes," along with "Love 'Em and Leave 'Em," "Adam and Eva" and others of a similar type. This season shows the most remarkable advance in theater fare. On a tour this writer made she was delighted to find Paul Vulpis' "Help Yourself," Sinclair Lewis' "It Can't Happen Here," Gilbert and Sullivan's "Iolanthe" and a revival of "The Emperor's New Clothes."

Altogether twenty productions, covering a wide range of audience appeal, were readied by the Caravan unit for its trucks this summer. Other plays which we did not have an opportunity to witness include: "Pierre Patelin," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Pirates of Penzance" and "Show Off."

Outdoor audiences are perhaps the most enthusiastic, the warmest before whom any group of actors have ever had the privilege to perform. Because of its very

motley composition—men, women and children of all ages are the auditors—the actors must decide for themselves whom they must reach beyond the footlights.

Judging by results, the players have adapted themselves admirably to these conditions. At a performance of the "Emperor's New Clothes," a charming children's fantasy, emphasis was placed upon the youngsters—and naturally so. It was the children who howled with delight at the antics of Zan and Zar, the two zanies. Nor has this writer ever witnessed a more satisfying sight. Even more so at one point in the play when Zan and Zar search for a sign reading "The Street of the Royal Weavers," which was at one side of the stage. Every child in the audience rose to his feet, pointing, shouting excitedly and directing. One child who could no longer contain him-

*(Continued on page 453)*

**Presenting proof that children are by no means the only ones in the audiences who enjoy the performances!**



*Courtesy WPA Federal Theater Photos*

# Sports "Carry-Over"

in the

## Home Recreation Program

**F**OR THE PAST two decades directors of physical education and recreation have increasingly emphasized the "carry-over" values to be found in public school and college programs of physical education. In other words, is it more valuable for a boy to spend his time in becoming a skilled hurdle racer or a proficient swimmer? Will he be a hurdle racer between the ages of twenty-five and sixty years, or will he be more likely to swim for health and pleasure? Would he be likely to use his skill as a hurdler more than his knowledge or ability as a swimmer, in contact with his family and friends as he seeks recreation and healthful enjoyment?

The answer is obviously in favor of such activities as swimming. Swimming and the less specialized and less competitive sports have a far greater carry-over value than javelin throwing, shot putting, mile running and similar sports, such as football, baseball and basketball. These sports have a place in the program but they do not have the carry-over value. A man who, as an active student, has been trained even moderately in tennis, swimming, golf, badminton, volleyball, horse-shoes, croquet, paddle tennis, archery, shuffle-board, gymnastics and similar activities, is conceded to have a far greater opportunity for later enjoyment than one who may have had outstanding ability in one or more two-team sports.

That is what we mean by carry-over value in sports. Their utility in later home and private life constitutes their value.

### Dad Comes Into His Own!

Unfortunately, most men have become absorbed in their economic success to such an extent as to shut out constructive recreation for themselves and families, their sole participation often being simply conversation around the luncheon or bridge table about "who will win prominent football games" or the "next world series pennant." They thrill, bet on the games, and have quite an intimate knowledge of all games, but do not give time to their boys and girls who are hungry for the companionship to be found in family recreation.

It is well contended, however, that the thinking

*By* **W. A. KEARNS**  
Superintendent of Recreation  
San Diego, California

father will not neglect to provide sport activity for his family. He will equip his own backyard so that it will provide wholesome fun in various seasons. The backyard playground movement, as promoted by the National Recreation Association through many city recreation departments, is the result of an evident need for putting into use the sport knowledge gained in earlier years. Much progress has been made because of the growing sense, on the part of parents, of their responsibility to their children for planning for the mutual enjoyment to be found in family participation in body-building, socializing, sports activities.

It is at this point that parents will find use for carry-over activities. The whole family responds when dad shows a keen participating interest in almost any activity. Children know dad is a hero, and glory in seeing him do things. Fortunate indeed is the man who has been trained in the skills which are most usable for such a home program! Simple activities take on importance under such guidance and interest. Croquet, for example, a game which the modern athlete might not wish to be seen playing, is nevertheless a game! There is opportunity for sportsmanship, consideration for opponents and fair play to be taught and learned in such a simple game. Dad may have been on the college teams, and though he has taken on forty extra pounds around the region of his belt, the same timing, judgment of distance, consideration of space and spin of the ball, and strategy can be employed in the simple game of croquet. In table tennis, a game now highly developed with national championships, will be discovered an unbelievably interesting activity calling for all degrees of ability, making it suitable for young or old. Volley ball and badminton require much accuracy,



speed, distance and position. The man who may have played left field or received punts on college teams can find ample opportunity to use his knowledge in teaching the whole family the same technique in these simple backyard games, as well as can an expert tennis player.

We hear parent education greatly stressed in Parent-Teacher Associations and similar groups in an effort to create a new feeling of parental responsibility for the proper program within the family. It is an embarrassing fact that many American parents have more or less unconsciously turned their children over to the many boy and girl organizations and to the public schools. To some this is a logical development; others are not willing to surrender to any organization the most important and vital privilege of being a real mother or dad. It is a proud boy or girl who can look forward to regular fun with dad and mother. The joyous anticipation of the week-end outing and sports with them will go far to buck up the lagging energy of the adolescent boy or girl. The confidence and understanding between parent and child, so vital for proper guidance in habit forming years, is naturally and surely established through the comradeship built up in sport activity interest. Such relationship is difficult to get if the "crowd" which makes up our vast multitude afflicted with spectatoritis, is followed. A hundred families participating separately in home recreation are of more value than ten hundred in grandstand seats watching modern gladiators on the athletic field. The sharp disagreement found today concerning over-emphasis in college athletics has to do with the carry-over in adult life that can be made of the skill thus learned.

Where could a more delightful setting for family recreation be found than that provided by National Parks?

### Many Activities Possible

A plan is more essential than elaborate equipment. Facilities for home activities are not a difficult problem. A desire and a planned program are the first steps. Many plans and suggestions for suitable equipment are made available by city recreation departments. While week-end outings will always attract—and the automobile has made a great contribution to this form of recreation—many young people desire a greater variety and a rest from riding. They will increasingly prefer to play tennis, badminton or practice archery. In the winter, table tennis is an excellent game for all of the family, and there are many other table games. Dart games with many variations are also good winter evening activities.

Regardless of the weather, a good hike with a fire for broiled steaks and toasted buns will make good sports of almost any family group, though they may be physically worn. Each section of our country is blessed with certain advantages when desirability for hiking is considered. The National Parks, as they have been increased in size and equipment, offer attractive and ever alluring places for recreation. Shelters in these areas are provided with water, fireplaces, and often bunks for seasoned or casual hikers. Our larger cities provide such facilities within city park limits which are more easily accessible for family use.

*(Continued on page 453)*



*Courtesy Department of the Interior*

# Model Airplane Clubs in Detroit

**T**HE MAKING of model airplanes is an integral part of the recreation program of the Department of Recreation of Detroit, Michigan, with a full-time aircraft director who has guided the program since 1926.

Our model airplane program in Detroit began simply enough with the organization in 1926 of a club of forty boys in one of the recreation centers. At the end of the second month boys were coming from eight to ten miles to attend the weekly meetings. By Christmas of that year the enrollment had passed the hundred mark and several other clubs had been started. Since then the number of participants has increased rapidly. Twenty-two clubs now meet each week enrolling over fifteen hundred boys who build on an average of five hundred planes a week. The staff has been increased by four WPA workers. The Model Aircraft Division of the Recreation Department occupies several large offices and work rooms in the main building of the Recreation Department and has a small experimental laboratory where a liquid chemical called microfilm is made which, when applied to the surface of the water, forms a transparent film that is then applied to the framework of the plane instead of paper because of its lightness.

At the beginning of the program the cost of materials was too high for many of the club members, and the essential materials were purchased by the city so that a member of a Model Aircraft Club can save fifty per cent on the cost of materials in comparison with retail prices. The program in no way conflicts with aero subjects in the schools, but supplements it, stressing practical construction and contests.

Rules were drawn up to guide and regulate these activities, but with the ever-changing and advancing techniques and developments in aircraft construction, the rules had to be changed and made more flexible to permit the builder to put his own ideas and experiments into his original models. Model aircraft developed into an activity of mental concentration and ordered thinking, molding character and indicating a vocation

By **ARTHUR J. VHAY**  
Aircraft Director

The making of model airplanes is an integral part of the program of the Department of Recreation of Detroit, Michigan. A director employed full time has been in charge of the airplane program since 1926 when it was initiated. Its development has been marked by success.

which a boy could follow in later years.

## Membership

When a boy wishes to become a member of a Recreation Aircraft Club he must obtain an application blank to be signed by his parents. The signature is required in order to bring the parents closer to their sons' recreational activities and to give them a clearer idea of our program.

Upon return of this card the boy pays a fee of twenty-five cent as dues for the year. This money is used in providing membership pins, annual trophies and prizes for each city championship contest. The boy is then ready to start his model aircraft career.

Listed on our roster are boys of ten years, many high school boys studying aero courses, and college men registered in the school of aeronautical engineering. We also have a special group of adults who use model aircraft as their hobby.

## Winning a Membership Pin

The first plane the boy builds must be a R.O.G. (Rise Off Ground.) This plane has a stick fuselage and a detachable wing. He learns in making it something of primary aerodynamics, for the same principles that cause this small plane to rise and fly cause all planes to begin and sustain flight. After a few weeks of this R.O.G. construction and the theory of flight, the boy is given a test in which his plane is required to fly fifteen seconds from a ground start and thirty seconds from a hand launching. The boy must be able to answer and give reasons for those answers for the control of flight and know the names of fifteen parts of an aeroplane. When this test is successfully passed the boy receives a membership pin.

## Earning the Aviator's Pin

After showing an elementary knowledge of aircraft, a second step is taken to obtain an Aviator's Pin, for which the following tests must be passed:

1. Indoor endurance model; 20 to 40 inch frame; flight two minutes.

2. Outdoor endurance model; 20 to 40 inch frame; flight two minutes.
3. Commercial model; enclosed fuselage; adjustable wings; flight 30 seconds.
4. Miniature model—similar in appearance to a real plane, but need not be of any specific make. It must have hollow wings, cambered surfaces fully covered by double surfaces on the wing areas. All controls must be movable.
5. Hydroplane—any size; must sustain its weight on water; taxi take-off and land.
6. Biplane—stick model; 6 to 8 inch fuselage. Flight two minutes.
7. Standard R.O.G.—flight one minute.
8. Glider—correct detailed construction; smooth even glide.

This group of tests usually requires about one and a half years to complete. Since a broad field of model aircraft and theory of flight is proven in the requirements, the Aviator Pin is eagerly sought.

#### The Ace Test

The next advancement requires a rounded knowledge of all phases of aircraft flight and construction and is rarely qualified for by anyone having less than six years of model-building experience. The standards are set high and the boy passing the Ace Test can justly be proud of his accomplishments. The test is as follows:

1. A historical thesis of not less than one thousand words on the progress of aircraft throughout the world and the achievements of aeronautical engineers in giving the public our modern planes and equipment.
2. Indoor flight with a plane of his own design; flight six minutes.
3. Outdoor flight with a plane of his own design; flight six minutes.

These tests cannot be passed during a contest and all planes must be rubber-powered and rise off the ground by taxiing on revolving wheels.

#### Cooperating Organizations

Our Department has been greatly pleased with the cooperation of the other City Departments. The Board of Education permits our clubs to meet in school auditoriums and gymnasiums after school hours. The State Department of Agriculture allows us the use of the Coliseum, a large structure located at the Fair Grounds which has a ceiling about three hundred and fifty feet above the floor, making it ideal for duration contests. The Detroit Police Department gives us the use of the Police Armory and takes a great interest in the activity. A prominent juvenile court judge

is often selected to judge at our city contests. The Wayne University and the University of Detroit Engineering College are always eager to lend whatever facilities we need to assist our members in this aircraft work.

After eleven years of conducting this activity, we in Detroit believe that we have established a system of maintaining and operating vocational recreation which is suitable to any community interested in this activity and we stand equipped, ready and willing to at all times give such assistance and information as might be desired by any recreation department.

#### A Model Airplane Meet

Boys poured into Detroit by train, bus, airplane and every variety of automobile and trailer to take part in the National Model Aircraft contest held in that city July 8th to 11th. Two hundred and thirty-six boys from sixty-six cities in nineteen states and from two foreign countries were among the prize winners, and there were 236 boys entered in the indoor events and 371 in the duration or outdoor events.

The meet was held under the auspices of the contest committee of the National Aeronautics Association. The Detroit Recreation Department was in charge of equipment, facilities and technical details and supervised the running off of the events. Officials of the United States Department of Air Commerce were present as observers.

In a radio address the chief observer for the Department recommended that the officials of all model builders' clubs make a special effort to organize all people interested in aviation to exert a greater influence in their communities to bring together air-minded youth and direct them into channels of authentic information. He also urged a concerted effort to influence public opinion so that fear and uncertainty in the minds of many groups in regard to aircraft in general might be dispelled.

The meet ended with a banquet at which all contestants and officials were guests of the Ford Motor Company. Next year the Kiwanis Club will sponsor the contest with the Detroit Recreation Department again conducting the meet.

Among other cities promoting model aircraft programs through their recreation programs is Chicago. The Chicago Park District has enlisted hundred of boys in this activity and has developed plans and techniques in construction and flying operations which are resulting in many unique and advanced models.



# Some Adventures in Nature Recreation



**U**NDER THE GUIDANCE of two nature specialists the children on the playgrounds in Westchester County, New York, are finding opportunities for exciting adventures in nature study. A quick trip to some of the communities in the county will reveal the varied activities of this nature program.

In Peekskill there is a nature walk every day; children with talents in arts and crafts are encouraged to paint or draw nature motives; interpretive dancing based on a nature theme has been stressed this past summer, and each child has contributed a page of his own findings to the group scrapbook. The children have caught turtles, snakes, toads, frogs and lizards for study and gathered leaves, flowers and insects for collections.

Rye boasts a nature club and a volunteer speaker's bureau which provides authorities on nature subjects each week. Children are stimulated to extensive work in nature through the awarding of points in nature study. For instance, a child who collects fifty Japanese beetles or ten different leaves, or who makes or identifies the calls of ten birds, receives an award of ten points for nature study.

Other communities served by the specialists report leaf identification, tree maps showing the different trees on the playground, construction of nature trails and the making of scrap books. The facilities of the Museum of Science and Arts in Yonkers have been made available to the playground children in that community for the study of stones, minerals and trees. Eleven playgrounds in New Rochelle send children interested in nature to the Huguenot Museum.

At Mamaroneck, on the other hand, nearness to the beach has resulted in great interest in collections of shells and crabs. In Eastchester there is a tree club, in Hastings, a Junior Garden Club.

Four special trips, called "nature treasure hunts" were organized by the nature specialists during the past summer—one to the Blue Mountain Reservation to study all forms of nature; one to Poundridge Reservation for nature trails; a third to Bear Mountain, to visit the trail-side museum, and the fourth to Manursing Island Park for an early morning bird walk.

Suggestions to play leaders interested in developing a nature work-shop in their local communities are offered on one of the specialist's reports. The projects outlined by her, which may easily be adapted or developed by any community, are as follows:

1. Plan and lay out a nature trail.
2. Make a nature scrapbook for the playground as well as individual scrapbooks.
3. Make a collection of "nature findings," i.e., flowers, leaves, insects and stones, for exhibition purposes.
4. Keep a nature corner when an indoor room is available.
5. Make an illustrated report on one of the following topics, showing how playground members can aid in the control of these destructive forces:
  - (a) Japanese beetle
  - (b) Elm tree beetle
  - (c) Tent caterpillar
  - (d) Forest destruction (fires, etc.)
6. Make an outdoor garden where possible on the playground—or window-box or dish gardens where no other space is available.
7. Form a nature club to interest other children in the playgrounds.

Essex County, New Jersey, through its County Park Commission provides a nature ranger who last summer visited the playgrounds and made it possible for children to enjoy nature exploration and adventure in the parks and who also con-

ducted visitors from various municipalities through the Reservation.

Recreation departments which were unable to arrange picnics and nature walks in South Mountain or Eagle Rock selected a park near their own grounds for the trips and a ranger was sent to them.

Eleven bus loads of children, representing those of the Essex County park system playgrounds where interest in nature activities was greatest and where the park itself afforded the fewest opportunities for exploration, were taken to South Mountain or Grover Cleveland for a day's picnic which included a nature walk and an opportunity to cook a meal at an open fireplace.

The nature ranger has proved a desirable addition to the recreation staff, and present plans provide for the continuation of his work as an integral part of the program next year.

State park authorities are in increasing numbers providing nature guides to add interest to the opportunities offered in the parks. In the state parks of Oklahoma, for example, a series of Sunday nature study tours has been initiated, with geologists and wildlife specialists serving as guides. The first trip held was attended by more than 500 people. In planning for the tours publicity was launched on a state-wide basis six weeks in advance, with stories distributed for Sunday release on each of the following weeks. The initial announcement included a solid page of pictures in one of the State's largest papers.

Those conducting the trips visit the respective parks several days in advance of the tours to map out the routes. At ten o'clock in the morning the hikers meet at the park where they are met at the entrance by CCC enrollees who distribute mimeographed programs and give directions for reaching the point of assembly where the cars are to be parked. The enrollees make a court of the arrivals. When the visitors leave the park they are asked by the CCC members what facilities they enjoyed most and what additional opportunities they would like to see

offered. All of the suggestions secured are charted, and it is believed the information obtained will be of much value in planning future activities.

The tours start about 10:15. Those interested in geology are taken in one direction by a geologist; the wildlife enthusiasts follow another trail. At noon all the hikers return to the assembly point for lunch in the main picnic area. Similar trips are taken in the afternoon, affording an opportunity for those who went on the geology tour in the morning to pursue wild flowers or trees on the later trip.

*Nature Guide*, a publication recently issued by the Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park, will be of interest to nature lovers everywhere, though it has been compiled primarily for campers in Harriman Park. The volume, which is illustrated, in no way attempts to portray the fundamentals of natural history in story-book form; rather, the general purpose is to present a primer of basic natural history facts and principles. It is also designed to serve as a guide and an aid to those lovers of the out of doors interested in winning a Regional Museum Emblem, commonly referred to as a Park "M." The requirements for this emblem serve as a yardstick for measuring knowledge of the out of doors. Some knowledge of the following subjects is called for: Ferns and fern-allies or mosses, liverworts and lichens; wild flowers; trees, shrubs and woody vines; fungi; amphibians and reptiles; rocks and minerals; birds; weather study; astronomy; insects and other invertebrates; soil study and mammal observation.

A number of well-known authorities in the various fields of nature study have contributed articles to the *Nature Guide*, which was edited by Agnes Kelly Saunders of the American Museum of Natural History, New York City. Copies of the book may be secured from the office of the Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park, P.O. Iona Island, New York. The price of a single copy is \$1.50.

Girls in a Houston, Texas, park, are acquiring first hand information on insects



# Recreation with a Purpose

By MARY CASE  
Klamath Falls, Oregon

**T**OMMY might have been a criminal, but instead he is a radio expert. Four years ago when

Sergeant Carl Cook became City Juvenile Officer of Klamath Falls, Oregon, Tommy was headed for the reform school. He had a long list of petty crimes to his credit, and his parents could do nothing with him.

Sergeant Cook decided to get acquainted with the boy. Going to him he greeted him with the "Good morning, gentleman," which is the sergeant's characteristic way of getting acquainted.

"Good morning." The boy was wary.

"How are you?"

"All right."

"Tommy, do you have a bicycle?"

"Nope."

"I was just going to take a run out to Altamont. How would you like to take a ride on the back of the motorcycle?"

The boy's face lit up. "Sure, I'd just as leave go."

That was the beginning. Soon Tommy was a busy boy, with so many things on his mind he had no time for petty crimes.

That boy is only one of a long list. But today juvenile delinquency is decidedly on the decrease because Sergeant Cook took a guiding hand in the recreation of the children. He made friends with them, took them on hikes, rides and picnics, played games, baseball and marbles. He wanted to know every boy in town and every boy wanted to know this tall young police officer in the neat uniform who was a great fellow.

Strange as it may seem it is unusual for boys to find a friend, a real friend, and they know instinctively when they do. Sergeant Cook was a real friend! He had no money or equipment and

he had a full-time job, but in his own spare time, starting with absolutely nothing, he has one of the

best organized recreation programs in Oregon. And this year a paid recreation director was added to the program.

## First, the Boys' Patrol

Sergeant Cook began with the Boys' Patrol. He visited the schools and talked traffic rules to the boys. Standing before them he explained how accidents happen to school children every year because some children do not understand or obey traffic

rules. He told of the need of traffic officers right in that

school. How would they like to be those officers? They would.

So the boys were organized in each of the seven city schools under the name of Boys' Patrol. Each boy in turn served as a traffic officer. Only the boys above the fourth grade were included and about eight boys were on duty each day, so all whose grades were a certain standard and citizenship was satisfactory had a turn at wearing the white web belt and had the responsibility and importance of directing the traffic of their schoolmates.

No child was permitted to jay-walk. Sergeant Cook proudly tells of the time one of his patrol boys challenged him for cutting a corner. The man promptly admitted his guilt and promised to report for punishment.

The patrol officer assisted the first graders at crossings and taught them to be ever watchful of cars. He had to be courteous and prompt in his duties.

This year Sergeant Cook talked to his patrols about the ever-present danger of bicycles in traffic. How would they like to learn the rules governing cars, take a written examination on those rules



The runway for skiing and sliding built through the unceasing efforts and hard work of Carl Cook and his volunteers



as well as a rider's test, and have a bicycle license which would cost them twenty-five cents? Again they would. The girls and boys owning bicycles would all do this. My own small son began saving his money at once and never was without twenty-five cents until the time came for the examination, for which he studied and passed a higher test than his parents ever had. And the pride in that small oblong license, an exact duplicate of the Oregon plate! Every other year a new one will be issued at the same price.

If every grown-up took as much pride in careful driving and knowledge and observance of traffic rules as these youngsters, the danger of accidents would be greatly lessened.

### Recreational Activities Organized

When summer came that first year, Sergeant Cook wanted to keep the boys and girls busy. So he organized clubs—baseball, softball, bicycle, and there was swimming for everybody twice a week. Money was scarce but he went again and again to the service clubs, who never refused to help.

Then when summer days grew hot, the sergeant made up his mind to take these boys on a vacation camp which would mean a week away from hot dry pavements in the cool of the nearby mountains. So back he went to the service clubs, returning with enough money and volunteer help for a camp and necessary equipment and a cook. Transportation for the twenty mile ride was furnished by interested truck owners. Each boy furnished his own blankets, enough food for a week (about two and a half dollars' worth), a plate, knife and fork and his own toilet articles.

At last all was ready, and every kit was checked as to the proper equipment. Carrying their bedding roll and groceries they poured into the trucks, sixty of them, the older boys assisting the little fellows.

One week to swim and play and fish or just loaf! Aside from certain duties such as making their own beds and helping in the kitchen in turn the boys could choose that which they wished to do. Most of the boys had never slept out under the stars on a bed made of fir boughs. Out here in the West where to go camping is one of the easiest things to do, with mountains and streams on every side, these underprivileged children had never camped. Sergeant Cook tells of one little red headed fellow who in

the wee small hours crept quietly in beside him, cold and frightened, cuddled down in his arms and fell asleep.

At the end of the week the boys returned to tell of pine cone fights, of fishing and hiking, and of good fellowship.

### And Now!

Those were the early days. Now there is a grown-up business air to it all. There are three playgrounds with equipment, made possible by liberal donations.

I had been one of many who had given several hours each week to help keep the children busy and we had been hard put for materials. But the delight in visiting the classes now! Here is a group making willow baskets; another class is hammering out trays and bowls from metal. There are classes in sewing, cooking, handwork, tap dancing and folk dancing. There is a library with a story hour every week. Best of all is an art class with pupils from six to sixty doing every kind of work, the sixty-year-old student the most enthusiastic of all. They are working in charcoal, crayon, pencil, water color and oil. Over it all is an atmosphere of good cheer, and I hear excited talk of picnics and hikes.

Sergeant Cook has not accomplished nearly all he has set out to. He wants a swimming tank and a club house and we know these will come.

Mrs. Case's mention of what is being done to promote safety in bicycle riding brings to mind the important steps Oregon cities have taken to control bicycle traffic. Information Bulletin No. 23, entitled "Bicycle Control in Oregon Cities," issued at the University of Oregon, Eugene, by the Bureau of Municipal Research and Service in cooperation with the League of Oregon Cities, tells of the plans in operation in a number of cities. The plan generally in use provides that all bicycles and bicycle riders must be registered with the city authorities, usually the police department, and the city issues a permit to those riders and owners who demonstrate their knowledge of the basic rules through a written test, riding examination, or both. Other requirements include an application blank describing the bicycle, to be filed with the police, metal license tags renewable yearly and a certificate of ownership.

Mrs. Case, who has been active as a volunteer in this very successful recreational venture, writes: "I have found the recreation director and his assistants using your magazine *Recreation* a great deal."

# Municipal Organization in Junior Club Work

**J**UNIOR CLUBS may be defined briefly as small groups of from eight to twenty boys between the ages of eleven and fifteen, who seek group life because of common social and athletic interests. Streets, empty lots and any other available play area are the arenas where these youngsters practice team skills without supervision, play other neighborhood teams, as they term it, "for money," or engage in games for the sheer satisfaction derived from competitive athletics. Their expression, very often because of the lack of supervision, takes an unsocial form. Have you noticed the boy who steals the "mickey" (potato) from the fruit stand, not because he really wants the potato, but simply because of the thrill of the chase or because of the adventure attached to cooking it at the "hideout"? Or have you considered the boy who "hitches" on the back of an automobile, not because he wants the ride, but because the cop on the beat will chase him and he will be able to hide in his mysterious labyrinth, the cellar, areaway, or other nook which only he and "the gang" know well.

The two factors promoting these and all delinquent acts, are recognition from the group and "the quest for adventure." It is, then, the responsibility of the recreation leader to provide adventure of a social form or to substitute another interest for it. Realization of the fact that clubs thrive on competition will go far toward solving this problem.

At Hudson Guild, New York City, Junior Clubs are organized with this assumption as the basis of organization. Well-planned leagues and tournaments serve as the means of sustaining interest in group life. A leader is sent into the neighborhood in early October when football is the children's main attraction. Groups found playing the game are leagued together, depending on their age, height, weight and ability. A leader is then assigned to each group. It is his responsibility to improve skills, provide other interests and develop the group from that point. The football league is followed by hockey, basketball, baseball, stickball, volleyball and punchball leagues, depending on the season, and special tournaments

**A worker in a New York settlement gives practical suggestions on how to enlist the interest of boys in adventures of a constructive type**

*By* JOHN FOX

the entire year.

It is necessary, however, because of certain undesirable outcomes of a highly competitive program, to form some kind of group which will help to smooth out problems and plan programs. We found that this group could work effectively when made up of two or more representatives of each of the clubs, and could serve to temper the competitive spirit with a co-operative one. When playing our roller skate hockey league, automobile traffic proved a dangerous menace. The Council group, with the president as spokesman, went to the neighborhood police station, placed their complaint, and got very favorable results.

## Laws and Penalties

At the beginning of the 1936-37 season, this Council, as we termed it, was organized in the same way as a municipality, having as officers a mayor, commissioner of sanitation, commissioner of health, fire commissioner, police commissioner and district attorney, who were elected following a week's campaigning by their friends. A rally at which candidates spoke was held to stimulate this interest. At a Council meeting held after the election the jobs of the officers were discussed and many interesting projects planned. The question of the function and powers of the municipal government, as against those of the federal and state governments, was discussed. A number of laws and penalties, particularly adapted to solve our problems, were set up. They were as follows:

Throwing papers and other refuse around halls and rooms is hereby prohibited. Offenders will be sentenced to sweep halls or do some other useful work every day for two weeks, or be barred from the building for three weeks.

Breakage of furniture and house equipment is prohibited. Offenders will be liable for the repair of and payment for broken furniture or equipment, or will be barred from the building for five weeks.

such as Olympics, relay carnival, roller skating carnival, and similar events. These contests are so scheduled as to keep interest throughout

Writing on or defacing walls in any way is prohibited. Offenders will be sentenced to wash and clean marks on all fourth floor walls for one week or more depending on the seriousness of the offense, or will be barred from the building for five weeks.

Fighting with paper or water, which results in the marring of walls or floor is hereby prohibited. Offenders will be liable for the washing of the walls or sweeping of the floor for a period of two weeks, or will be barred from the building for five weeks.

Writing on toilet, room, or hall walls is hereby prohibited. Offenders will be sentenced to wash walls or do some other piece of useful work every day for two weeks, or will be barred from the building for three weeks.

Rough-housing in halls and rooms which results in annoyance to others is prohibited. Offenders will be sentenced to go to the Play Group in the assembly for three weeks, or be barred from the building for four weeks.

Rough-housing and running on stairs which endangers the lives of others is hereby prohibited. Offenders will be sentenced to be suspended from the building for one week.

#### Duties of Officials

It became then the job of the Police Commissioner, his staff and the other officers, to see that these laws were observed and enforced. A regular court was formed to try offenders, the procedure and organization of which was as follows:

##### Judge:

Boys club worker to preside.

##### Jury:

To be made up of six boys between the ages of eleven and fourteen.

Cards to be sent to jurors notifying them of their duty to serve.

Jury to be picked by Council members from registration lists.

Jury must serve for three court meetings.

##### Defendant:

Entitled to fair trial.

May have witnesses to prove innocence.

Will be notified by card of day of trial.

Penalty to be enforced by boys worker or police commissioner and staff, or by the attendance taker at the door.

The Commissioner of Sanitation studied sanitary conditions in the House and how they could be improved. It was his finding that small wastebaskets were not satisfactory receptacles for litter because they did not immediately catch the eye and children were inclined to be too impatient to

look for them. It was his function then to evolve a means of getting larger receptacles, and inspect the building, reporting unsatisfactory sanitary conditions to the leaders.

Fires on the cold winter days are prevalent in city streets and a great hazard to the health and safety of children, especially the younger ones. Our fire commissioner, a lively city boy, in making a survey with the help of his staff, decided that street fires were the result of negligence—first the negligence of the parents, who leave matches where they are easily accessible to the children; second, negligence on the part of the neighborhood janitors, who put garbage and waste out on the sidewalks where they remained all day a great temptation to the young incendiaries. As a result of these findings, the young Commissioner decided to visit the neighborhood sanitation department, find out when they came to make their collection, and then go to the neighborhood janitors, asking them to put out their waste a few minutes prior to the time that it would be collected. The fire menace on 27th Street ceased almost immediately. The fire commissioner also held periodic fire drills for the entire house, at which time he and his staff emptied the building quickly and orderly, maintaining discipline and timing the drill.

Getting children and older people concerned about health is one of the big problems which confronts the boys worker. The Health Commissioner at Hudson Guild, a reliable boy, helped in a small way to evolve a solution to our problem. After a great deal of discussion and planning, a good health habit contest seemed to be the best possible way for our commissioner to render service to the community. The City Health Department was asked for posters demonstrating desirable habits. These were put up on bulletin boards and walls, with the result that the idea spread like wild fire through all departments. A plan was devised whereby the contest could be coordinated with the girls' department, the kindergarten, and parents' groups, and it slowly became a health drive. A questionnaire was made up and answered by all the boys.

The sole purpose of the questionnaire was to make the children conscious of good health habits. The questionnaire episode was followed by a large parents' meeting at which our doctor spoke on the health clinic findings, and good health habit charts were given to the parents for their children to keep over a two week period. This meeting was

(Continued on page 454)



# Playparks in Great Britain

**A**MONG the projects stimulated by coronation year are the acquisition and development of play areas with the sponsorship of the Coronation Planting Committee. Under its direction Mr. Thomas Adams has prepared an attractively illustrated booklet entitled *Playparks* with suggestions for their design, equipment and planting. This publication emphasizes the need and value of play and particularly the importance of planning play areas in such a way that they may afford an attractive setting for activities.

In the first section of the publication it is pointed out that no project is more important in the development of character and physique "than those that are designed to give healthy outdoor recreation to children from infancy to adolescence. . . . Another related measure is that of aiding in the provision of community centers. . . . There is need for more coordination between those whose efforts are directed to provide means of recreation for young people above school age and those who desire to see more effective methods employed to provide healthy outdoor recreation for children of and under school age."

"The term 'playpark' is used to define a playground that is laid out in combination with certain park and garden features. It is a playground possessing natural features that are most desirable and fulfill its purpose of giving mental and physical stimulus to the young."

It is pointed out that the playpark may be incorporated in an existing public park, although where this is done care should be taken in selecting and arranging the site so that its use for active play "will not cause injury to the amenities of the park for its main purpose." The playpark may also be adjoining a school playground, but it is pointed out that such an area should be open during all daylight hours. An interesting comment is made to the effect that "In an independent playground, equip-

## Resumé of a pamphlet outlining Great Britain's plans for the provision of play spaces with attractive settings

ped if possible as a playpark, the children can feel a sense of liberty and ownership that is impossible in the school playground." On the other hand, it is pointed out that where the school playground comprises from four to six acres there may be no need for a playpark in the same district.

The importance of play areas as a factor in reducing street accidents is suggested by figures showing that in Deptford with only 2.2% of its area in open public space, 43.4% of the accidents occurring are accidents to children. In comparison, in Westminster, another London borough with over 25% of its area in public open space, only 10% are accidents to children. "It is also shown that in the first quarter of 1935 half of the accidents to children in London occurred during leisure time, namely, on Saturdays, Sundays and on week days outside school hours." Because playgrounds under well trained play leaders help to keep children off the streets "it would appear to be proper that contributions from the Road Fund should be made toward the acquisition and layout of playgrounds as a safety measure."

Throughout the booklet the importance of providing an attractive setting for children's play is repeatedly emphasized. Reference is made to the games which arise from children's imagination and in which they secure such great delight, and it is pointed out that the "inspiration for such games comes with the presence of natural features such as trees, rocks and pools with the opportunities they present for imaginary camping and hunting." Suggestions are offered as to ways in

which the land may be secured, but it is pointed out "The only way to obtain these playgrounds together with park areas is by public purchase." The cost of providing these areas is partly offset by the fact that "a well designed playground surrounded by trees and shrubs adds to the amenities and therefore increases the value of all properties in

In the preparation of *Playparks* Mr. Adams and the Coronation Planting Committee have made available valuable and attractive material which should not only stimulate the development of recreational areas throughout Great Britain, but which should be of great interest and value to recreation leaders in other countries. Copies of the pamphlet may be secured from the Committee at 68 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1., for one shilling each.



Courtesy The American City

the neighborhood." It is suggested that cities take advantage of the opportunities which are presented in many districts of acquiring large out-of-date residences that are now available at moderate cost and convert the grounds into a playpark and the house into a welfare center.

A considerable section of *Playparks* is

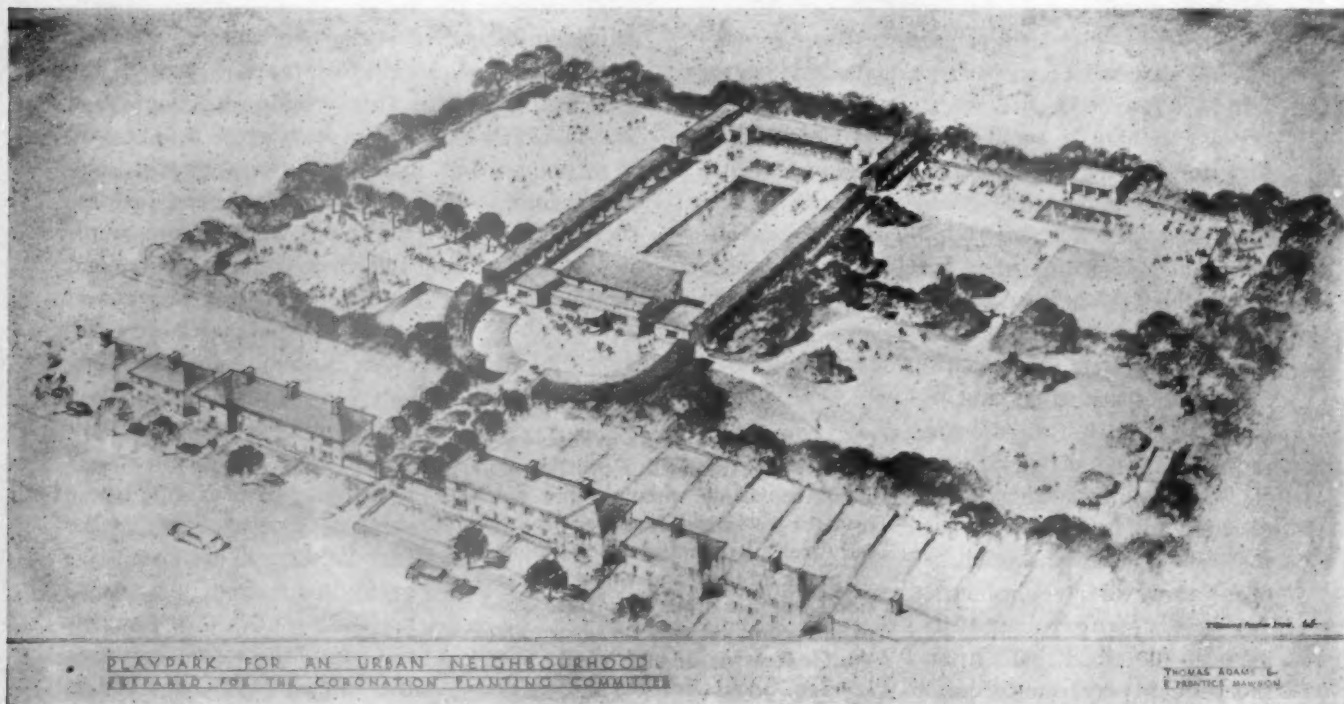
Showing the Street of Tethered Children in London, and as a happy contrast, children enjoying the freedom of the school playground at Bourneville, England

a number of suggested designs are included for areas of different sizes and providing varying facilities and sports areas. The essential requirements for children's playgrounds are summarized as follows:

(1) Large portion of

(Continued on page 454)

A playpark, defined as "a playground that is laid out in combination with certain park and garden features"



Courtesy The American City

# A Religious Drama Festival

By JAMES MCKINLEY  
Toledo, Ohio

"WHY DIDN'T our church have a chance to put on a play?" "Will you reserve a place for us in next year's festival?" "Why didn't you tell us this is what you had in mind?" "Are you going to have more than one festival a year?"

These and other questions were asked by young people's groups, ministers, judges, players and spectators in the days following our first dramatic festival held in February in the auditorium of the Collingwood Avenue Presbyterian Church.

As we look back on the project in its entirety and fit together the comments and criticisms as one would assemble a jig-saw puzzle, we have come to the conclusion that the possibilities of religious drama are tremendous if only someone can awaken churches to their opportunity. As director of recreation at the Collingwood Avenue Presbyterian Church and by no means an authority on drama, I am firmly convinced of the value of dramatics as one phase of a religious recreation program for young people.

I first broached the idea of a religious drama festival to the president and adviser of the Young People's Federation which is affiliated with the Toledo Council of Churches. I wanted them to sponsor the festival, as they would be a link between the various churches of the city. I was made chairman of the committee and we immediately set about the task of securing the participation of nine churches. It was decided at first not to make a contest of the festival but later events changed this decision.

From this point on difficulties grew with monotonous regularity. We discovered that although churches had to some extent been putting on plays in their own congregations, the idea of nine different churches getting together as a group and each producing a one act Biblical or religious play was something they could not quite grasp. Their misunderstanding was never entirely clear-

There is now available helpful material for churches promoting drama as a part of their program for young people. The International Council of Religious Education, 203 North Wabash Avenue, Chicago, has issued a pamphlet entitled "A Dramatic Calendar for Churches," containing suggestions for dramatic programs for outstanding events for each month. This may be secured for twenty-five cents. Among the material issued by the Division of Plays and Pageants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 740 Rush Street, Chicago, is a comprehensive bibliography called "Plays for the Church." Copies of this may be secured for twenty cents each.

ed up until the plays were put on. Then the light broke! As the plays unfolded the churches

saw what we were attempting to do.

In spite of our efforts to explain the plan adequately, there were three plays which had no definite religious message. However, these plays were of high caliber and served the purpose of making breaks between strictly Biblical plays. Some churches produced plays requiring royalties, while others put on non-royalty plays. In the opinion of the judges the royalty plays were the best. The winning plays were "The Old Candlemaker of Saint John's," by Robert M. Gatke, "The Other Apostles," by George E. Callahan, and "The Rector," by Rachel Crothers.

## Taking Stock

The directors of the plays did good work, but when the festival was over they realized there were many ways in which improvement could be made. It was the consensus of opinion among the directors that there would be a great advance next year if the churches would pay the expenses of an individual to attend an eight or ten weeks' course in play directing. It was thought that the small sum required by each church would be amply repaid. The churches would have a reliable person to carry on their work, and the wild search for a producer which ensues whenever a church decides to put on a play would be ended. Lighting and stage effects, it was felt, could have been improved—a situation which will be rem-

edied when technical instruction is made available. It is our intention to organize a class in this important branch of dramatics.

The crowds attending the three-night festival were not large. However, those who did attend were impressed. Their comments showed that they had not expected so successful an event, and next year we feel confident that the attendance will be a great deal larger. The festival was



not publicized to any great extent. This feature of our next program will be improved.

In pointing out the weaknesses in our festival we hope that other groups promoting religious drama will profit by our mistakes. We have learned much by our experience. We know that there is an abundance of potential dramatic ability available in the young people of the churches—enough to warrant the use of dramatics as a definite part of a church recreation program. We know that all groups who participated in the festival enjoyed their part in it and found great satisfaction.

We in the churches have perhaps been lacking in initiative in opening up channels of expression for our young people through drama. We believe this situation can and should be remedied.

The Toledo Council of Churches had planned to make its festival a non-competitive affair, but when the second annual state-wide religious drama festival was announced it was decided to use the Toledo project, which preceded the state-wide festival, as a county elimination contest, the winner to compete in the finals of Dayton. The state-wide festival was sponsored by the Christian Youth Council of the Ohio Council of Religious Education, and according to Mary E. Henderson, secretary of the State Drama Committee, it is one of the Council's major projects.

The festival was open to all young people's groups in the churches of Ohio, the requirement being that all players should be of amateur standing and between the ages of fifteen and thirty. Plays were chosen from an approved list; forty minutes were allowed for presentation, with five minutes for setting the scene and five for clearing.

Each county set up its own festival, every church entering the county festival paying an entry fee of 50 cents to the county drama chairman. This money was used to pay the entry fee of \$2.00 required of the county winner entering the state finals. All groups were

#### PURPOSES OF THE STATE DRAMA FESTIVAL

To promote a larger use of religious drama as spiritual and educational experiences in the church.

To raise standards of religious drama.

To afford groups of young people a dynamic means of serving their church and their community.

To develop a more sympathetic understanding among the young people of different denominations in community, county and state, and to lead them to think and work together cooperatively.

asked to pay their own royalties in the county festival, but the state committee paid all royalties up to and including \$5.00 for productions entered in the finals.

All contestants, directors and stage crews were entertained in Dayton homes according to the Harvard plan. An event

was arranged in their honor following the Friday night performances. On Saturday noon the Dayton campers from Camp Indianola, a coeducational camp sponsored by the Youth Council, were the hosts of the players. These social affairs added much to the festival.

Fifteen counties were entered in the finals—a fine representation in view of the fact that at the time when most plays were ready for production a great deal of Ohio was under water. Instead of dropping the project, three of our southernmost counties wrote: "Give us three more weeks and we'll come through." And they did! Four productions were given on Friday night; five on Saturday afternoon; five on Saturday night, with the winner playing on Sunday. A non-competitive play, "His Cross," presented by players from Campbell County, Kentucky, closed the festival. No admission fee was charged but free-will offerings were taken. The money collected in this way paid all expenses.

"For nearly 500 years the Athenians made drama their chief means of adult religious education. They housed it in their most sacred temple. They presented their greatest dramas there at the sacred season of the year. They closed their places of business and adjourned their courts so that everyone might come and receive the intellectual and spiritual stimulus of the plays. So powerful

was the effect of those religious dramas that Athenians developed an understanding and an insight which made their name a symbol of culture from that day to this. Read those plays today and you will see why they have lived for 2400 years."—From *Drama in the Church* by Fred Eastman and Louis Wilson.

The National Recreation Association issues a bulletin entitled "Drama Tournament Suggestions" which takes up technical problems of rules and regulations and methods of judging. This may be secured for ten cents. The Association also has ready for distribution a revised bulletin on religious drama which has the title "A Few Suggestions for Religious Drama." This may be obtained free.

# At the Conference on State Parks

FROM JUNE 10 to 12, 1937, the Seventeenth National Conference on State Parks was held at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, where the delegates were the guest of the Pennsylvania Parks Association. Park conservation, development and administration, with special attention to increased responsibility for planning and management resulting from the federal aid program of emergency conservation work, were discussed by delegates from all parts of the country. Colonel Richard Lieber of Indianapolis was elected president for his sixth consecutive term.

The first session of the conference was devoted to a discussion of the general topic, "Relation of the Federal Government to State Parks." Conrad L. Wirth, assistant director of the National Park Service in charge of the Branch of Recreational Planning and State Cooperation, stated that three considerations should constitute the foundation of federal and state cooperation in park work: (1) A basic understanding of objectives; (2) realization that national parks and state parks are of equal importance in their own fields of recreational service, and (3) realization that while federal and state park authorities are working in different fields, each group can learn much from the other.

"State Park Legislation" was the general topic for discussion at the Thursday afternoon session when a comprehensive review of such legislation in the various states was given by Roy A. Vetter, assistant attorney of the National Park Service.

Friday morning's session was devoted to state park organization, and a bird's-eye view was given of methods followed in various states. An interesting topic of discussion was the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps in state parks.

The importance of acceptance of responsibility for future developments on the part of the states was emphasized by Director Arno B. Cammerer of the National Park Service who said:

"During the last year a number of the states have taken steps to meet their responsibility. Several states have recently enacted legislation for the first time setting up park authorities and empowering them according to the best known practices. Several others have extended and improved the scope of their park boards' or commissions'

functions, and there have been gratifying increases in state park budgets. There is, generally, increased recognition in law of public park and recreation services as a primary function of government, evidenced by the more definite trend to consider such services on a parity with other fundamental governmental functions. The court decisions likewise have recognized that park and recreation services are governmental rather than proprietary functions. The selection of areas and their integration into a state-wide coordinated system have been given more definite consideration. This has meant more basic studies in their evaluation and selection and a greater emphasis upon their distribution in order to meet human needs; more attention to careful planning for their development, and greater concern for the achievement of individual and social benefits to be derived from their use by the people.

"Encouraging as these accomplishments are, it must nevertheless be admitted that the problem and the possibilities have, for the country as a whole, been little more than touched. The problem that each state now faces, if it has not already done so, is the establishment of a park authority, adequately financed, wisely empowered and properly staffed, both with administrators trained and experienced in park and recreation work and with properly qualified technical advisers. There is no other way to carry on the work that has been so generously augmented by funds and services from the federal government, and there is no other way of guaranteeing the freedom of local ingenuity and creativity that should govern the development of each state park system. While there are certain general principles that apply to all park work, the individual adaptations of them and of park technique can best be made by the states themselves; otherwise the state park in California is apt to be the same as the one in Maine."

The importance of adequate long-term planning was emphasized by Colonel S. P. Wetherill, Jr., founder and former president of the Tri-State Regional Planning Federation.

The conference closed with a trip through Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, and a number of other parks in the region.

# You Asked for It!

*Question: We are planning to open a community center this fall and we want, of course, to make the center as widely known as possible among the people of the neighborhood. What methods have other cities employed in inviting people to the centers?*

*Answer:* A well lighted entrance and building are the best possible invitations. But in addition there should be folders taken home by the children describing the program and listing the activities to be conducted, posters in store windows, newspaper publicity, radio announcements, word of mouth invitations, and handbills.

Just before the social centers of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, opened last year the Electric Transit Company carried huge placards in the front of each street car, and a huge electric sign at City Hall blazoned forth the message, "Social Centers Open This Week."

The director of the Newton Community Center, Board of Education, Newark, New Jersey, issued the following invitation to neighborhood folks:

"You, your family and your friends are cordially invited to visit our center on any Tuesday or Friday from 7:00 to 11:00 P. M. and join happy groups in the gymnasium playing volley ball, indoor tennis, basketball and other games. Observe the craft groups—the men repairing radio sets, building miniature Spanish galleons, while the women knit and sew as their fancy pleases. In other parts of the building younger groups are enjoying dancing and fencing and in the game rooms the card tables, ping pong tables and other types of quiet games attract both sexes and all ages.

"All these activities and others are offered to those who become members of the community center, and all that is asked of those who desire to become members is that they abide by a few community center rules and regulations which are merely formulated so that the majority may enjoy their leisure moments in an atmosphere which is in harmony with that prescribed by society in general.

"Come to the center and register. Mingle with your friends in any activity that is offered. Give yourself a chance to grow mentally and physically.

Life is a continuous process—you work at your profession or trade so that you may survive to recreate your ideas and desires in the hours after toil.

"Someone has said that in this world there is a niche for every one of us. Some of us are lucky and find it by ourselves. Some have to be guided and others have to make one, but by whichever method you get to your niche the important thing is that you reach it and the community center may help you, if you will but take advantage of the opportunities offered. Remember! All roads lead to the Newton Community Center.

"Come in and let's get acquainted."

*Victor J. DiFilippo, Director.*

*Question: We are interested in planning for a recreation week in our community which will focus attention on our recreational needs and program and will show our citizens what is being done. What activities do you suggest for such a week?*

*Answer:* The following activities have been found helpful in arousing interest in a city's recreation program. Not all of these may be possible in your community, and a selection and some adaptation will be desirable.

1. A joint evening dinner meeting of all civic groups and other organizations, followed by movies of recreation features in other cities.
2. Official tour of recreation program
3. Play Day in public park, the program to include group games, stunts, Maypole dance, sand play, folk dancing, track events, hop scotch, O'Leary, jacks, marbles and model airplanes
4. A handicraft exhibit and a class demonstrating the construction of the various articles
5. A program of dramatics, minstrel, puppetry and orchestra
6. A pageant depicting activities included in the recreation program
7. Radio skits
8. Life saving and first aid demonstration
9. Demonstration of physical activity program



# WORLD AT PLAY

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## Where Farm Animals Come to Town

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SINCE the children in the neighborhood of the Lucretia M. Blankenburg Playground, sponsored by the Playground Association of Philadelphia, do not often or ever have the opportunity of seeing ducks and ducklings, chickens, rabbits and other animals dear to their hearts, the playground director last summer brought the farm to the city. The collection started with a few fish, soon boasted a bird feeding table and later included baby chickens and ducks. Before the end of the summer the menagerie included, in addition, turtles, white kittens, a mother cat and three kittens, a flock of pigeons, and a setting hen, obtained to answer the question, "How do they get the little chickens?" An elegant pig pen awaited a promised piglet. The rats which frequented the section endangered the animals in the menagerie, but the advent of three pet rats, "the three stooges," tame for handling, yet sources of fear to wild rats, remedied the matter. Needless to say all the animals were named.

Pens were made by older men and boys in the neighborhood since the children using the playground were too small to make them themselves. Older children were admitted only as junior leaders. The children took turns feeding the animals and the younger animals were taken home each night, for safety's sake, by certain children. Applications were filed for this privilege and children awaited their turn. The playground was open June 28th to August 27th, and from one until eight p. m.

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## A Learn-to-Swim Campaign

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THE Recreation Department of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, in co-operation with the Park Board and the local newspaper, last summer carried on for six weeks a swimming instruction program which proved highly successful. Instruction was given to non-swimmers leading up to the Red Cross beginners' tests by use of the stunt method. Classes were organized by play leaders on all playgrounds which went to the pool or beach nearest their playgrounds at scheduled hours. A club membership button was given at

the first instruction period. When certain tests had been passed, swimmers were entitled to receive a membership button in the Minnow Club. Those successful in passing more difficult tests received the Fish Club button. Continuous publicity was supplied by the sponsoring newspaper which also furnished the buttons. The Park Board supplied the beaches and pools, and the Recreation Department organized the activity and furnished leadership. Approximately 750 enrolled in the activity.

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## More Recreation in Union County

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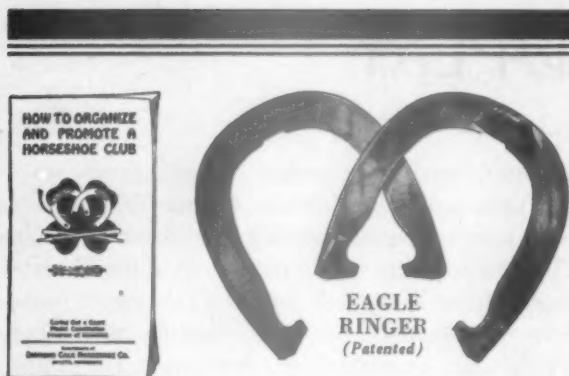
FIGURES issued in the August 13th edition of *Our Parks*, the organ of the Union County, New Jersey, Recreation Commission, showed substantial increases in the attendance this July over last. Picnickers totaled 96,773 in contrast to 50,141 for the same month in 1936. The number of fishermen jumped from 6,827 to 13,744, with all park lakes and streams being intensively fished. Horseback riding increased almost 100 per cent.

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## A New Type of Nat- ural History Museum

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MISS NELL MILLER of the Sacred Heart Academy, Galveston, Texas, describes an interesting handcraft project conducted last summer at the Vacation School of the Y.W.C.A. The project was the creation of a museum of natural history for which each child in the class constructed some type of animal or phase of life in which he was particularly interested. Animals made of beaver board and heavy cardboard were painted or colored with crayons and placed in a typical environment. Corrugated boxes, secured at no cost from local stores, were used for the setting. Colored cellophane was placed back of holes cut in the top and sides of the box producing an attractive lighting effect. White cellophane was used on the front of the box for glass. The inside of the box was painted blue with cloud effects and the outside black. When the project had been completed each child looked up the history of his subject and this was typed and pasted on the side of the box. An exhibit was held at the



## WRITE FOR FREE BOOKLET

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end of the season and blue ribbons were given as awards for the most artistic and realistic settings.

**Recreation at State Fairs**—The programs of state fairs of the past summer gave unusual recognition to leisure time activities. Among the hobbies presented by displays at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, according to Miss May M. Wright, were amateur photography, collections of various kinds, clay modeling, leather stamping, and fancy work done by men. There were contests in checker playing, fiddling, play production and singing, together with talks on hobbies by a noted artist.

**Rock Island's Drama Contest**—Last winter the Playground and Recreation Commission of Rock Island, Illinois, held its tenth annual drama tournament known as the Marshall Dramatic Contest. This contest has come to be an established institution in this city, and a very popular one. This year the house was completely sold out a full month in advance of the contest, and many people were unable to secure tickets. With the completion of the new high school, with its auditorium seating 600 people, it is hoped to avoid disappoint-

ing anyone when next year's contest is held. Sixteen plays were presented by groups representing churches, business houses, PTA's, the American Legion and a number of local clubs. The plays were judged by the individual and group achievement scale developed at the University of Iowa. Under this system the work of the individual actor is taken into consideration as well as the play as a whole. Each individual player in the contest is rated on characterization, line reading, voice and articulation. The play as a whole is given a rating of from one to seven, according to the key, for each of the following points: Choice of play, casting of play, mounting of play, stage movement and business, team-work of players, tempo, projection of significant points in plot, projection of theme of play, projection of emotional content and spirit of play, total effect of play. The play score is added to the players' average to give the total rating.

**Can You Help?**—The Enoch Pratt Free Library has asked us to give publicity to the following item:

"The Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland, is very anxious to complete its file of RECREATION and solicits offers of Volumes I-VI, 1907-1912 (former title, *The Playground*)."

Communications should be addressed to Joseph L. Wheeler, Librarian.

**"Recreation—Ancient and Modern"**—At the final night program held in Stadium Field, Warinanco Park, Union County, New Jersey, children from the Warinanco Playground dramatized the development of recreation, starting with a presentation of Greek games, sports, drama and the dance and continuing with a Roman soldier drill and a Roman slave dance, and depicting interpretations of the folk dancing of France, Switzerland, Italy, Scotland, Norway and Holland. The program ended with a presentation of the various recreational activities of modern times. Tableaux showed participants in paddle tennis, baseball, basketball, foot racing, handcraft, volley ball, ring tennis, tumbling and pyramid building. The final scene showed all of the children in a tableaux entitled "The Spirit of Play."

**"Flower of Venice"**—On August 22nd the Des Moines, Iowa, Civic Music Association presented in Greenwood Park the operetta, "Flower of Venice." WPA created the costumes worn by the singers.

**A New Playground Association**—Scotch Plains, New Jersey, a community of about 4,000 people, has organized a Playground Association incorporated for the purpose of assisting trained recreation leaders in promoting recreational programs. The association is supplementing the work of the playground directors at the County Park Playground by planning special events and entertainments such as a display of fireworks on the Fourth of July and by purchasing athletic equipment in addition to that regularly supplied by the Park Commission.

**Detroit's Municipal Camp**—Last summer the camp at Brighton, Michigan, conducted by the Detroit Recreation Department took care of over 2,700 children. At a charge of a dollar a day food and shelter were provided, and the children enjoyed boating, horseback riding and other activities, and learned Red Cross life saving.

**Making Horseshoes Available**—In Warrancko Park, maintained by the Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission, horseshoes are obtainable at the refreshment stand. A dollar deposit is required but no charge is made for the use of the shoes.

**A Playground "Graduation"**—The "graduation" exercises for the seventeen playgrounds of Utica, N. Y., take the form of an annual field day which comes at the close of the summer season and as a climax to it. It was a gala affair this year, opened by the Mayor and presided over by the Chairman of the Recreation Commission, acting as master of ceremonies.

The first event was the awarding of medals and certificates to the seventy-five boys and girls who had earned the Fair Play Club Awards. These awards put no premium on winning or on athletic ability, but are given to the children on each playground who are leaders in participation, service and character. Following the awards, 350 children from the playgrounds presented a patomime pageant of "Sleeping Beauty" in costumes made by themselves, using properties made by an adult education art class project. A number of dances were woven into the story. After the pageant a field and track meet was held for boys, one boy from each playground being entered for the baseball throw for distance, broad jump and 100 yard dash, and four from every ground for the 44 yard relay. Championship baseball and volley ball games were played off as part of the meet. Points

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*Special Prices to Playgrounds, Coaches, Physical  
Education Directors, Y.M.C.A. and  
Y.W.C.A. leaders, etc.*

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were given for winning the events and were added to the points made in inter-playground competition during the summer toward a championship banner. Articles made in handcraft during the summer, on display before and after the main program, attracted considerable attention.

**A Playground for Chinese Children**—A playground designed primarily for the children of Chinatown, New York City, was opened early in September, another step in the program to provide increased recreational facilities for the residents of Chinatown and other children in the section. The playground occupies one and three-quarter acres and has facilities for baseball, volley ball, paddle tennis and other sports. It contains a small shelter where mothers may sit in the shade while the children play.

**At the Annual Meeting of the School Garden Association of America**—From June 28th to July 1, 1937, the School Garden Association of America held its twenty-seventh annual meeting in Detroit, Michigan, in connection with the annual meeting of the National Education Association. Leaders in the movement presented reports of developments throughout the country. No city



represented at the conference reported on a longer period of operation of gardens than did Detroit. Initiated in 1905 by the Twentieth Century Club, a woman's organization, the children's garden program was conducted by volunteers for eight years when it was established as a regular activity of the Board of Education and became affiliated with the 4-H Clubs, a few years later being taken over by the Recreation Department. The program has enjoyed a steady development, with canning centers during the World War, meetings of the groups conducted by boy and girl officers, exhibits, flower festivals and an annual achievement day.

Interesting features of the meeting included visits to school gardens, to the garden center sponsored by garden clubs, to the Fordson High School with its unusual horticultural department and to the horticultural gardens located on property which is part of the homestead of Henry Ford's father. Here garden instruction is given children of the Fordson Junior High School and the Fordson High School. Each student of the junior high school has a garden plot 20 by 60 feet, while the senior high school group members have gardens of 40 by 60 feet. A visit was also made to Mr.

Ford's own gardens notable for their extent and variety.

**Where Sam Houston Camped**—The historic camp ground of Grapevine Springs, Texas, famous because President Sam Houston of the then Republic of Texas once made it his capitol for thirty days while he pondered the affairs of his nation, has been made available and attractive to the public through an extensive program of building and beautification. Construction of roads, gravel paths, retaining walls of colorful native work, foot bridges, a dam and numerous picnic units have been part of the WPA's program of development, a program financed chiefly by the WPA, with substantial assistance from a sponsor. All improvements have been made to fit the natural setting and all construction work has been done in native stone.

Grapevine Springs Park is located near Dallas, Texas, and serves thousands of persons living in a thickly populated farming section. It consists of twelve acres of oak, elm and pecan trees which afford abundant shade, and a crystal-clear spring from which the park derives its name.



## STORY PARADE

*A magazine for boys and girls  
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**An Industrial Recreation Center**—The Industrial Mutual Association of Flint, Michigan, owns Potters Lake, twelve miles east of Flint on a state highway, which the association has developed as a recreation center for its members. On the shore of this beautiful inland lake are 400 acres. Along the west shore are twenty-one cottages which are rented to I.M.A. members at low rates. On a peninsula jutting far out into the lake are a dance pavilion, merchandise and lunch stands. One of the features is a bathing beach and bath house, one end of the beach being reserved for children's wading. There is a well equipped children's playground, and in addition there are a number of picnic tables, benches and outdoor stoves available at all times for members and their families. The park is equipped with horseshoe courts, a baseball diamond, rest rooms and ample parking space. There is excellent fishing in the lake and boats are available at low rental rates. During the summer many events are held for members and their families, such as swimming meets, picnics, band concerts and boat races. Many factory picnics are held at the lake.

**American Education Week**—The seventeenth Annual American Education Week sponsored by the National Education Association, the United States Office of Education and the American Legion will be observed November 7-13 for the purpose of "focusing the attention of the American people upon public education as an indispensable phase of democracy."

The specific theme chosen for this year is "Education and Our National Life" with the following day by day topics suggested for discussion:

- Sunday, Nov. 7—Can We Educate for Peace?
- Monday, Nov. 8—Buying Educational Service
- Tuesday, Nov. 9—The Horace Mann Centennial
- Wednesday, Nov. 10—Our American Youth Problem
- Thursday, Nov. 11—School and the Constitution
- Friday, Nov. 12—School Open House Day
- Saturday, Nov. 13—Lifelong Learning.

To give assistance in program planning the National Education Association is issuing handbooks, source books, leaflets, posters, stickers, and packets of materials covering all phases of the week and its topics, adapted to the various school levels and to adults. These are moderately priced with special discounts for quantity orders. A list of available publications and prices may be obtained from the National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.



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**St. Paul's Municipal Playground Artists**—The St. Paul, Minnesota, Playground Department is making a special effort to encourage the natural talents of children in music and dancing. One thousand talented boys and girls belong to the Municipal Playground Artists who are serving many local groups. During 1935-36, free community programs were presented at local community centers by children chosen from each neighborhood. The children rehearse in units of ten or fifteen, carrying out a special theme through music and dancing. Over a hundred broadcasts have been given during the year. A special MPA cruise was conducted over Station WTCN, and each Saturday the artists were to be found either on ship or in a special country giving to the world the music of that country. A girls' glee club has been organized, a junior symphony orchestra, singing guitar group and several musical trios. The group holds monthly meetings ending with a party. The Artists' Mother's Club plays an important part in the activities of this group by its service and assistance at all times. Nearly 200 special achievement pins have been given by the club to the artists who have earned the required points.

## AN EDUCATIONAL MAGAZINE

for teachers and students of dramatics,  
drama directors and club sponsors . . .

## The High School Thespian

*The High School Thespian* is the only national journal in America devoted exclusively to the interests of educational dramatics. It is published as an educational service for teachers whose duties include the sponsorship of dramatic clubs, teaching of classes in dramatics, stagecraft, make-up, costuming, and play production.

Each issue contains a wealth of time-and money-saving ideas, articles by nationally known leaders in educational dramatics, timely editorials, pictures of the latest high school stage sets, reviews of new plays, books, and magazine articles of special interest to teachers of dramatics, discussions pertaining to the technical aspects of play production, and numerous reports which present an impartial picture of what is occurring in the field of dramatics in our colleges and high schools.

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**A Map As a Woodcraft Project**—One of the projects of the woodcraft classes maintained by the Division of Recreation of the Park Department, Framingham, Massachusetts, was the making of a jigsaw map of the United States. The map fitted together shows the larger cities, capitals of states and important rivers. This project had a two-fold feature: correlation with the history and geography classes and the development of skill in wood carving, the use of tools and the promotion of creative ability in the children.

**Hobbies**—The Hobby Guild with headquarters at the Hotel Knickerbocker, New York City, has completed a survey among social, religious and leisure time organizations and individual members to determine the trend of pursuits in which the average person is engaged. Photography has made great progress as a leisure time activity in the last year, according to the study, with the miniature motion picture branch of this hobby making the greatest strides. Interest in arts and crafts has

greatly increased. The most active of the craft hobbyists are those indulging in model making.

**New Swimming Pools for American Communities**—Officials in 750 cities and towns of the United States, according to the May issue of the *American City*, are making ready to open for the season more than a thousand swimming pools constructed or improved by the Works Progress Administration and this agency's predecessors in the Federal Works Program. CWA built more than 200 pools; PWA 350 new pools and improved 226 old pools; WPA 250 new pools and 61 old. These figures do not include many projects still under construction that will soon be available for use.

**Ann Arbor Receives Wooded Tract**—A tract of eighteen acres of wooded land along the Huron River has been given the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan, by Harry B. Earhart of Ann Arbor and Detroit. The plan for development by the City Board of Park Commissioners involves the assistance of the National Park Service in landscaping, beautification, and the removal of stone. The property will be preserved in its native state except possibly for the provision of paths for visitors.

**A Drama School**—The Department of Recreation of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, maintains a drama school in which 103 individuals are registered representing church groups and other community units. Those taking the course meet once a week for three months. The plan involves an exchange of presentations each unit appearing in all the other churches represented.

## Much Ado About Doing

(Continued from page 407)

Juvenile offenders are increasingly being turned over for supervision and guidance to recreational organizations. Recreation facilities are being increased in areas with high delinquent rate.

### Part Three

Part Three of the study is an analysis of what the community (Los Angeles) is doing to meet the leisure time needs of youth. Space does not admit of its inclusion.

### Conclusions and Recommendations

The conclusions of the study are that youth will find expression in some form of leisure time ac-



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tivity, and if no constructive outlet is found destructive results will obtain. Youth will respond increasingly to wholesome leisure time programs, not enough of which have been provided to cover all youth. It is the responsibility of the community to provide positive recreational opportunities, and all community agencies, both public and private, must assist in answering the leisure time needs of youth. It is the responsibility of the leadership of these related agencies to challenge their respective constituents to concerted action that the leisure time needs of youth may be met.

As for recommendations, it is specifically recommended that all agencies take steps to collaborate, each in its own province, in providing the following for youth: More lighted indoor and outdoor recreation centers, opportunities for more "co-recreational" sports, more cultural activities, such as music, drama and arts and crafts, more opportunity for wholesome social recreation, the development of an adequate co-recreational camping program and a more adequate outdoor program for young men and young women, careful study of program content and technique for young people's club activities, and cooperative

publicity, so that all youth may know of the recreational facilities and program offered.

### Shorter Hours for Shut-ins

*(Continued from page 408)*

regular duties, and thus help to make it a definite part of the recreation service of the city.

#### Some Values of the Service

A recreation program for the shut-in child gives a double service. It not only brings happiness to the boys and girls, but gives the parents an opportunity for some relaxation from a great physical and mental strain and worry. Although this latter benefit may not be admitted by the parent in most instances, it nevertheless cannot be denied. Eight months of this type of service has only opened up other avenues into which this program may be directed. Elderly people whose eyes are growing dim with age have asked for the readers to visit their homes. With an increased staff this and many other services may be added as very important phases of a recreation program. One private organization has given benefit shows to buy musical instruments for the less fortunate

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boys and girls, while other groups have volunteered transportation to take amateur entertainers to the homes of the handicapped for special performances.

Actual results of this program to date in Akron are:

- (1) Happier hours for handicapped children and parents.
- (2) Organization of a parents group as a co-operative agency.
- (3) General improvement in school work as reported by visiting teachers.
- (4) Increased attempts and desires on the part of some of the boys and girls to overcome their handicaps.

Certainly any program that may give such results is worthy of experimentation by all organized recreation departments.

### Some Sports and Their Developments

*(Continued from page 411)*

thrills. The highest pitch of excitement marks every game. Whizzing at terrific speed up and down the rink, absolutely oblivious of safety, it seems a miracle that any of the players survive. That they do not get by unscathed is attested by the marks of battle of some of the best players in the game, one of whom has 163 scars and a broken collar bone.

A friendly little game, this ice hockey, but certainly one which we would not be ashamed for our ancestors to have seen and compared with their own wild contests of a dozen centuries ago.

### Thanksgiving "Giblets"

*(Continued from page 413)*

- Thanksgiving ..... Free
- A reprint from the October 1926 issue of RECREATION, including a bibliography of plays, music and poems appropriate to Thanksgiving and a party.
- A Thanksgiving Party.....\$25
- Suggestions for a party including decorations, invitations, games, dramatic and creative activities. (In October 1936 issue of RECREATION)
- Collections of Thanksgiving Recitations, Monologues, Dialogues, Plays, Exercises and Drills for All Ages (Order from the publishers)
- Hallowe'en and Thanksgiving, Nina B. Lamkin..... .50
- Samuel French (New York and Los Angeles)
- Good Things for Harvest Time, T. S. Denison & Co. (Chicago, Ill.) ..... 40
- Includes suggestions also for Labor Day, Harvest Home, Columbus Day, Armistice Day and Theodore Roosevelt's birthday.

## Baron DeCourbetin

Baron DeCourbetin, promoter and organizer of the modern Olympic Games, died in Geneva on September 1, 1937. In 1894 Baron DeCourbetin became convinced that athletics should play a large part in educational development and warned against the commercialization of sport. As early as 1883 Baron DeCourbetin worked to introduce sports into the French schools. In later years he was critical of too many "international competitions and championships" leading to "exaggeration." For thirty-one years Baron DeCourbetin served as president of the International Olympic Committee, retiring in 1925 to be succeeded by his associate, Count de Baillet Latour.

## Recreation Rehabilitates the Shut-in

(Continued from page 420)

York, to equip a pleasant craft room for men. Two rooms in the Family Welfare Building, Dayton, Ohio, were remodeled through the cooperation of the Lions Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Junior League, and others to house a dramatic program for the blind.

### Permanent Achievements

The continued existence and development of this experimental service has become a matter of importance to institutional directors. Many are dismayed over the possibility of continuing without WPA assistance. Others have demonstrated their enthusiasm for the program by adding to their payrolls these WPA leaders who have served in their institutions.

In Rockford, Illinois, a leader was released from the WPA project on account of curtailment of funds and immediately engaged by the Rockford Children's Home to continue the recreation work she had started there. The Superintendent of the Women's Reformatory, Rutland, Vermont, has written that she is making every effort to obtain funds to make the program permanent. Two of the three leaders at the Michigan Reformatory at Ionia were hired by the State and immediately resigned from WPA.

"It was a mooted question in the beginning as to the kind of reception this pioneer program would meet with when presented to the heads of these institutions. A recent survey, I am happy to report, disclosed that the consensus of opinion is that it has been not only well received but so

## Magazines and Pamphlets

( Recently Received Containing Articles  
of Interest to the Recreation Worker )

### MAGAZINES

#### *Parks and Recreation*, September 1937

Income Tax and Park Employees  
Historic Camp Ground Becomes Beautiful Park  
Cheyenne Mountain Park

#### *Leisure*, September 1937

Hobbies of the Sightless, by D. J. Rahn  
Industrial Recreational Programs, by Frances Overpeck  
Early Play Parties Revived in Texas, by Emma Bolling  
Button, Button, Who's Got the Button? by Dorothy Walkley  
Discovering and Developing Leaders for Leisure Time Programs, by R. Bruce Tom

#### *Hygeia*, September 1937

Sane Manias—Hobbies of Varied Personalities,  
by S. R. Winters

#### *The Journal of Health and Physical Education*, September 1937

Recreation Reinterpreted, by Eduard C. Lindeman  
Some Physiological Effects of Activity, by Adrian G. Gould  
Square Dance Figures of Tidewater Virginia,  
by Caroline B. Sinclair  
Soccer-Basketball

#### *Public Management*, August 1937

Measuring Public Recreation Systems, by C. E. Ridley and H. A. Simon  
Trends in Community Recreation Centers,  
by George D. Butler

#### *The Nation's Schools*, September 1937

Down with Delinquency—Adventures in Cooperative Recreation, by Virgil M. Rogers  
Win or Lose—But Play, by Ethel Perrin

#### *Child Life*, August 1937

Busy Time (Seven games, stunts and things to do),  
by Floyd L. Bartlett  
Let's Make Sailboats, by Ella Dolbear Lee  
Party Favors, by Hazel F. Showalter

#### *Child Life*, September 1937

How to Make a Bracelet and a Napkin Ring,  
by Elsie Vogt  
Child Life Hobby Club

### PAMPHLETS

#### *The Church and American Rural Life*.

by Benson Y. Landis  
Council of Women for Home Missions and Missionary Education Movement

#### *The Biggest Racket in America*,

by H. Eliot Kaplan  
National Civil Service Reform League

#### *Annual Report of the Recreation Department of the Industrial Mutual Association, Flint, Michigan, 1936-37*

#### *American Universities and the AAU*,

by E. L. Damkroger  
Alexander House Settlement, Wailuku, Maui, T. H.

#### *Studies of Community Planning in Terms of the Span of*

*Life*, by Catharine F. Lansing  
New York City Housing Authority

#### *Vacation Dividends*, by Lena Madesin Phillips Pictorial Review Co., New York City



## A Handbook of Private Schools

21st edition, May 1937. 1184 pages,  
4000 schools, 250 illustrations, 14 maps.  
Round corners, silk cloth, \$6.00

More than a guidebook—it is a discriminating review of education as it is and as it may be

"Not only does it state clearly, and in no mincing words, what is the trouble with American education, but it is an invaluable source book of pregnant quotation, and an equally invaluable bibliography of liberal writing and thought. I wish to God every parent could read it understandingly, and I would like to stand most university presidents and headmasters of schools in a corner, dunce caps on their heads, and keep them there until they had learned your book by heart. It is a magnificent production." *Struthers Burt, Author, Three River Ranch, Wyoming.*

"Should be read and pondered by every would-be intelligent parent who has a child to educate. You review pithily the most invigorating and thought-provoking matter bearing on human problems that has come out in the course of the past year. You deserve high praise for transforming what might seem a commercial venture into a cultural event." *E. A. Ross, Emeritus Professor of Sociology, Univ. of Wisconsin.*

### A BRIEF SCHOOL GUIDE

Lists and classifies by type and locality the more important Boarding Schools and Junior Colleges—Boys, Girls, Coeducational. 2d edition, 1937, 132 pages, 700 schools, 14 maps, 97 illustrations, cover in color. SINGLE COPY 25 CENTS.

Write for Table of Contents

PORTER SARGENT, 11 Beacon St., Boston

satisfactory in its operation that none of the institutions would be without this service." Thus the WPA Supervisor of Education and Recreation in State Institutions commented on his Wisconsin program. And then he gives this indication that none need be without this service. "At a recent meeting of the Board of Control a close analysis was made of the value of individual leadership and their retention decided upon. This was for the purpose of making the project a permanent part of the work of the Board after the passage and signing by the Governor of the Biennium Budget."

Whether or not the program is immediately taken up and carried on by the hospitals, prisons, asylums and the rest, its effect upon these institutions has been permanent. Doctors, criminologists and parents will insist on the retention of methods which have done so much to rehabilitate the handicapped. Nurses of their own volition have taken courses preparing them to assist in this work. In the Psychiatric Division of Bellevue Hospital nurses in training are required to attend classes of demonstration and instruction in recreational therapy conducted by WPA leaders. Also, dur-

ing the training period they assist the leaders in their work with patients.

And patients will continue to write letters like this one from Seaview Hospital, Staten Island, New York. "Most of us have been confined here for a lengthy period . . . are prone to devote too much time to thinking of our troubles . . . are apt to become mentally stagnant. This work you are carrying on comes as a blessing to us, taking us away from the deadly monotony of our daily existence. So for myself, and the rest of the boys of this ward, I thank you."

## The Art of Pitching Horseshoes

(Continued from page 422)

issue of *The Horseshoe World*, states:

"In sighting the shoe one should either bring the shoe up in front of the face with the arm extended, or swing it up there for the aim. Some players use the broken arm method of sighting the shoe, which means that the shoe is sighted with the elbow pointing down, and the hand and forearm raised, so that the stake cuts the line between the eye and the stake. Practice will make either method successful. After the shoe has been held just an instant for the aim, the back swing is started, the shoe passing by the right leg, and to a point back of the player, where it cannot be swung any farther without discomfort or loss of balance. This point of hesitation in the back swing, before the forward swing is started, is known as the termination point in the back swing. The shoe is then swung forward and released before the nose. All during this swinging operation, the arm is kept straight and swung from the shoulder, like the pendulum of a clock. This is known as the pendulum swing. The weight of the shoe is sufficient to build up enough momentum to carry the shoe over the forty feet of space between the stakes. The shoe is never pitched, tossed, thrown, pushed or heaved towards the stake. It is swung."

At the termination point (end of the backward swing and the start of the forward swing) the pitcher, if right-handed, should step forward with the left foot and swing the delivery arm forward with an easy and natural sweep. In case the shoe is turning too much, or not enough, the pitcher should shift his grip on the shoe slightly between the toe and heel calks.

Rhythm and timing of the swing are important factors in the game of horseshoes. The pitcher should aim to pitch for rhythm by using a long swing and keeping the arm straight as stated by Brown. There should be as little knee action as possible. The body should be bent forward and perfect balance should be maintained at all times during the delivery of the shoe.

## Stamps and Recreation

(Continued from page 424)

Navy issues came from the government presses, for example, every child was told the stories of the heroes whose portraits adorn the stamps, as well as the events of national importance with which each was associated. This instruction is in narrative form, and Mr. Miller devotes considerable time after each lecture to a period of questioning.

History, however, is not the only point of instruction, for the study also embraces the angles of art, printing, design and several other allied fields.

Mr. Miller can tell many interesting tales of the creation of important collections by children and the devious and varied means they employ to obtain stamps. Old trunks and family records are ransacked, business houses are solicited for envelopes, juvenile dealers are consulted, and, though the practice is not encouraged, even public dumps are searched.

In connection with the latter, Mr. Miller recalls that one of the most valuable collections in Hartford, a city widely known for its interest in philately, was started from stamps obtained from a dumping ground. The collection, which was years in the making, recently was appraised for tax purposes at over \$50,000, and the collector readily admitted some of his earliest and most valuable items came from envelopes he found on public dumps as a boy.

The Hartford stamp clubs are now over a year old, and both Mr. Dillon and Mr. Miller are convinced they constitute one of the most important factors in the city's program of educational recreation.

## New Audiences

(Continued from page 426)

self, jumped on the stage, grabbed Zan by the coat tails and shouted: "You dope, here it is."

Many stories can be told about the spontaneity of the outdoor assemblages. At a performance of "Melodies on Parade," a revue of the "gay 90's," the audience joined in the singing of old time favorites—and without prompting. An old man sitting next to me knew every song, every gag, backwards and forwards, and sang in a pleasing baritone throughout the evening.

In Queens, contrary to usual custom, the audience did not chat during the intermission, but



Recreation workers will play their part in the Community Mobilization for Human Needs campaign which, in the words of Charles P. Taft, Chairman, "is the expression on a nation-wide scale of that love of neighbor which is the key to happy community living."

beat time with their hands to Souza's march as it was being played by the orchestra.

The actor, once he has accustomed himself to the limitations of the Caravan stage, gives all he has in return for his audiences's infectious enthusiasm—for it has given him something for which he can indeed be grateful—proof that although the commercial theater cannot absorb him, the people want and love his art.

## Sports "Carry-Over" in the Home Recreation Program

(Continued from page 428)

It is probably true that such occasions go further toward regulating and improving home relationships than almost any other activity. Nature lends a hand to those who look upon her beautiful mountains, lakes, rivers and seashores. An appreciation of the magnitude and grandeur of much of our scenery dwarfs the petty problems which may seem insurmountable in many American homes. Here sympathy and understanding are generated. An appreciation of what has gone before in American pioneer life will leave the present generation better fitted to face in a constructive way the unknown problems of family and society.

## A Challenge to the Home

The present social status points clearly to the need for careful attention to the importance of life within the home. We have passed through a

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decade or more of unprecedented material prosperity which has ended in one of the most difficult economic eras of our history. Elaborate and almost unlimited development of commercial recreation and entertainment has had certain destructive effects on American family life. The ease and efficiency of travel, ever increasing, with the attending problems for young and old alike, further challenges parents to make home life more complete and better organized. The prospect of shorter working hours may prove of great advantage to the home. It also may prove destructive, if free time is not used for some wholesome activity.

Will the home meet the challenge?

## Municipal Organization in Junior Club Work

*(Continued from page 436)*

followed by another at which those children who kept the best health habits for the two weeks were honored. A "Health Honor Roll" was set up in a conspicuous place on which were put the names of those children who corrected defects.

The rôle of the leader in a project of this kind is clearly evident. Many authorities in the field of recreation have been known to divorce education from recreation. Recreation and education, however, are very closely connected and it is the job of the recreation leader to supplement the work of the schools and help them in every way possible. Thinking of education in its broader sense, as the everyday experiences which go to mold the character and develop the child socially and physically, the recreation leader is indeed a teacher. He must be continuously alive to teaching opportunities and also to situations which make it possible for him to get children to express themselves through the tool subjects as learned in school.

## Playparks in Great Britain

*(Continued from page 438)*

the area for active play should be of hard court material to allow of constant use.

- (2) The layout should allow easy supervision.
- (3) Lavatories should be convenient to all parts.
- (4) Ample drinking water should be provided and should be of the jet type to avoid contamination.
- (5) A small Red Cross outfit should be provided for cuts, bruises, etc..
- (6) In a large scheme it might be an advantage to provide for Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies in addition to the small children's games, etc., also a crèche or clinic so that the whole youth movement is coordinated.
- (7) Ample shelter should be provided.
- (8) Gardens and planting should be fenced.
- (9) Paddling pool water should be frequently changed.

In conclusion there is a general summary under the following headings: The Need of Playparks; Sites, Sizes and Frequency; Planning; Planting; Distribution of Cost and Effects on Values of Property; Organization; Powers of Local Authorities to Acquire Open Spaces, and Proposals of the Government for Physical Training and Recreation.



## New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

### The Book of Festivals

By Dorothy Gladys Spicer. The Womans Press, New York. \$3.00.

**T**HIS BOOK of festivals preserves in full detail authentic memories of what America should not be permitted to forget of beauty and joy." Thus Dr. John H. Finley in his foreword characterizes this comprehensive compilation of festivals. The festivals described in the volume have been selected on the basis of nationality, with the two exceptions of the Hindus and the Mohammedans. In general the holidays of a country's predominant religion have been selected as typical of the country. As it was impossible to include the festivals of all nationalities in a single volume, the author has made her basis of selection in the main the European and Oriental nationality groups most widely represented in the United States. In collecting her data Miss Spicer has had the assistance of many racial leaders and authorities. Recreation workers will want to avail themselves of the assistance offered in this authoritative volume.

### Twelve Festival and Dance Programs For Spring and Christmas Exhibitions

By Margery Coe Hawley and Mary Kate Miller. Burgess Publishing Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota. \$1.50.

**I**N THIS MIMEOGRAPHED BOOK, which is illustrated with sketches showing costumes, the authors have attempted to avoid the mistakes which so frequently mar public performances. For this reason the programs suggested are simple, the staging and costumes inexpensive, large groups are included in which the less skillful may take part, and all dances used may be taught as regular class work long before the program is presented. The programs, six of which are devoted to Christmas and six to spring production, include all types of activity, and are suitable for all grades and ages. They are adapted to either indoor or outdoor use. All the programs offered have been tried out and found successful.

### Notes For Modern Dance

By Mary P. O'Donnell and Sally Tobin Dietrich. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$2.00.

**T**HIS BOOK will be of most value to students who have worked in "Survey of Rhythmics," "The Teaching of Modern Dance," and "Studies in Modern Dance" or in similar courses. The movement skills described are not intended as a set of prescribed exercises, but are to be used as a point of departure for the building of many more technique skills and ultimately for dance composition. The authors urge that the student be given the opportunity to discover for himself as many variations of a particular movement as possible. Music is offered for the use of the accompanist.

### Safety For Supervised Playgrounds

Prepared by the Education Division, National Safety Council, One Park Avenue, New York City. Price 25¢.

**T**ODAY WHEN the public playground and the trained play supervisor are considered necessities in every progressive municipality, the element of safety in children's play assumes a place of great importance. The playground offers the child happiness and security only so long as it affords protection and this protection is a combination of training and environment.

This new pamphlet is a guide to the director in checking dangerous conditions and keeping him alert to the fact that every piece of apparatus, every activity, even the surface of the playground, holds possibilities for accidents. Especially valuable are the sections on the safe use of apparatus, the safety programs which have been used successfully in a number of cities, and the new ideas for stimulating interest in safety. A summary of the accident experience of twenty-four Cleveland playgrounds during the summer of 1936 shows that among the playground patrons no age is immune from accident. A two-year old and an eighteen-year-old were among the casualties reported that season. The pamphlet also contains explicit directions for procedure in case of injury and a sample accident report. A number of attractive photographs taken on playgrounds show well-planned game areas and children at play using various apparatus in the proper way.

### Hunting With the Microscope

By Gaylord Johnson. Leisure League America, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City. \$25.

**W**ITH THE GROWTH of scientific clubs as a phase of recreation, this booklet will commend itself to all who do their hunting with scientific instruments. Another book of the Leisure League series designed for the amateur scientist is *Discover the Stars* which gives some fundamental facts and outlines techniques.

### Personality and the Cultural Pattern

By James S. Plant, M.D. The Commonwealth Fund, New York City. \$2.50.

**I**N HIS NEW BOOK Dr. Plant has gathered up the fruits of fourteen years of clinical observation of children and parents. He has had a growing conviction that the environment of the individual—that is, the cultural pattern in which he lives—has much to do with the kind of motivation which expresses itself in personality traits. This interplay of environment or cultural pattern upon personality is the central theme of the book.

Naturally the type of cultural pattern determines in a measure the type of personality of the individual. There have been in the past God-centered patterns, family-centered patterns, and state-centered patterns. At present,

Dr. Plant contends, we are moving into an individual-centered cultural pattern. Social thinking necessarily centers, therefore, around the individual with its inner motivations and the outer influences of its environment. We now accept the fact that if we are to change the individual we can probably bring about such change more effectively by altering the environment in which the individual lives than by probing his inner motives. We therefore ask these questions: What does family life do to the personality of the child? What part does the school, the church, the law and industry play in the development of personality? What is the function of recreation in personality development? What kind of education, and how much education, do we need to get in order to secure the best results in personality development?

The chapter on "Recreation" is a challenging one. "It is perhaps true," says Dr. Plant, "that in our recreational life we can bring into play the entire integrated personality as we cannot elsewhere—and it is perhaps true that this is precisely the reason that we gain such refreshment in the most wholehearted undertaking of recreation." The most serious problem in the recreation field, he says, "is not one of developing a polished set of techniques but of eliciting and strengthening these highly desirable informal elements which already exist. An institutional structure is probably required—but its policy should be that of inviting rather than regimentation."

This volume is not easy reading but it will repay the careful study which recreation executives and others may give it. Reviewed by *E. C. Worman*.

#### Natural Color Film—What It Is and How to Use It.

By Clifford A. Nelson. The Galleon Press, New York. \$1.50.

If photography is your hobby—particularly if you are intrigued by the use of color in motion picture or still photography—you will be interested in this book with its new approach to the entire subject of natural color photography. Non-technical and informative, the book has been planned and written for the amateur worker who wishes to achieve the full beauty available in "Kodachrome."

#### The Relationship of City Planning to School Plant Planning.

By Russell A. Holy, Ph. D. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. \$1.60.

City planning is at last beginning to assume the place in community life to which its importance has long entitled it and which municipalities have been slow to recognize. And in intelligent city planning school plant planning must be an essential consideration. This study by Dr. Holy published with the approval of Professor N. L. Engelhardt, has had two purposes: (1) to investigate and appraise the degree of existing articulation of school building planning and city planning, and (2) to formulate recommendations for the improvement of both city planning and school planning by means of a better articulation.

#### Understanding Architecture.

By H. Vandervoort Walsh. Art Education Press, Inc., 424 Madison Avenue, New York. \$50.

"We do not have to go to Europe to understand architecture. We can begin right in our own town to make our first conscious observations. Ask ourselves the first question, 'What are the different kinds of buildings in our town?' Then inquire deeper, 'What are the social activities that made it necessary to build?' Finally we come to the first and fundamental matter concerning all architecture—does the building serve the people who use it?" To show how these questions may be answered

through architecture is the purpose of this attractive booklet which presents some of the fundamental principles which should enter into the planning of building. It is unique in the skill in which it interprets to the lay mind beauty in building.

#### The American Home Course in Period Furniture.

By Lurelle Guild. Art Education Press, Inc., New York. \$50.

The individual whose hobby is antique furniture, or for that matter one who is only mildly interested in the subject, will find fascinating material in this attractively illustrated book giving information regarding the furniture of various periods and their originators.

#### Digest of Laws Relating to State Parks.

National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

In response to numerous requests, the National Park Service has undertaken the compilation of a digest of all state park and recreation laws of a general and permanent nature. Special attention has been given to the important consideration of making it as convenient as possible for the reader who desires to know the law generally or who may seek the law on a particular subject as it relates to recreation. The material has been published in three volumes: (1) Alabama to Mississippi; (2) Missouri to North Carolina; (3) North Dakota to Wyoming.

#### Children's Mental Whoopee.

By Mabel H. Meyer. Simon and Schuster, New York. \$1.00.

Here are seven new games—and there are ten sets of each game—which will provide entertainment for children from six to twelve and will tax their ability to think quickly.

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